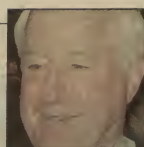


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The great Garland  
Judy's life and work  
explored in TV-movie.  
see Arts section



# BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 31 • No. 8 • 22 February 2001

Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

## Community reacts to FBI hate crimes report

by Katie Szymanski

Just as homophobia is justified and even encouraged in society, homophobic attacks are hardly recognized by law enforcement offices around the country, as numbers released by the Federal Bureau of Investigation last Tuesday, February 13 seem to indicate.

In issuing what the agency itself recognized as an inadequate sampling, the FBI announced that 12,122 participating law enforcement agencies in 48 states and the District of Columbia reported a total of 7,876 bias-motivated criminal incidents for 1999. Of these, 4,295 were racially motivated, 1,411 were based on religion, and 1,317 were the result of sexual orientation bias (14 of which were "anti-heterosexual" crimes). Only three homophobic murders nationwide were documented by the FBI for the entire year.

This is a "massive under-reporting" of hate crimes against LGBT people, said National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Executive Director Elizabeth Toledo, who last week pushed for federal legislation that would mandate more accurate reporting of hate crimes. Under the federal Hate Crimes Statistics Act, local law enforcement agencies are not required to report hate crimes to the FBI, even if they collect such data for themselves.



Elizabeth Toledo

page 17 ►

## More than coffee at the Chat Cafe Job fairs help laid off dot-commers

by Katie Szymanski

There are other Internet cafes in the Castro, but nothing comes close to capturing the atmosphere of Chat Cafe at 18th and Sanchez, a virtual wet bar of fruity iMacs and people, united through caffeine.

As a pit stop for the glamorous and savvy – welcoming guests such as the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, comedian Margaret Cho, and actress Joan Collins – it should come as no surprise that Chat Cafe is now the center of high-powered networking for thriving and once-wealthy dot-commers alike. In an experiment-turned-tradition, the cafe is now host to a popular job fair every other Friday, bringing together interested companies and laid off techies to make the economy go round.

"A lot of people in the neighborhood have technology related jobs, and our customers had been making comments to us about how they have been impacted by the downturn," explained Michael Crawford, co-owner of Chat Cafe, about the job fair's launch six weeks ago.

Although predictable, the dot-com crash has nevertheless rattled many workers who saw the industry bring the price of their housing up and then leave them with a monthly rent they could no longer afford.

"We began to wonder if there was a way we as a coffee shop could bring people together other than for socializing. We started contacting companies and recruiters, and were absolutely amazed by the response," said Crawford, who runs the 2-year-old cafe with his life partner Tom Hanus.

page 17 ►

Chat Cafe owners Tom Hanus, left, and Michael Crawford, open their Castro business for a job fair every two weeks.



Rick Gerhart

## Lesbian rises from beat cop to head of Homicide

by Dennis Conkin

When Judie Pursell was working as an insurance claims adjuster back in the mid-1970s, she saw an ad in a newspaper recruiting women and minorities to be-

come San Francisco police officers.

It was a groundbreaking idea in law enforcement, at a groundbreaking time in San Francisco history – and the results of such visionary recruitment efforts have forever changed the landscape of the front lines of the criminal justice system in San Francisco.

More than 25 years later, Lieutenant Judie Pursell, 47, sits at her command desk in the fourth floor office in the Hall of Justice on Bryant Street talking about her historic journey from a relatively green police recruit to head of the police department's Homicide Bureau.

Almost immediately, one realizes how truly fortunate the citizens of San Francisco are that Pursell rose through the ranks to hold the esteemed post.

As one listens, it is also evident how much those early years were hardly a cakewalk for women officers coming into a department rife with political cronyism and an entrenched and spectacularly un-diverse "old boy's network" that was sometimes openly hostile and almost always nervous about the modernization of the department, especially the recruitment of women and minority officers.

That's putting it mildly, to be sure.

And Pursell acknowledges that it was a difficult time for her and the more than 60 women officers who were trained at the Police Academy in 1975. She calls herself "a survivor," and begins to name pioneering women classmates and colleagues who shared the challenging experience and who later joined the ranks, making it possible for younger women and minorities to consider careers as police officers – replete with rank.

"Our department has made such unbelievable strides. Being a woman police officer was very difficult. It was hard and difficult for us to push through. But we all had a goal. We wanted to be here. Those of us who are still here are here because we want to be here," she said.

"At the time, there was only one out lesbian in the department. But I went through testing and everything and ended up at Cen-

page 15 ►



Lt. Judie Pursell

Jane Philonen Cleveland

## Bear winners celebrate

The new International Mr. Bear, Scott Perry, of Lexington, Kentucky, gets a congratulatory hug from Bear Cub Scooter Garoutte after winning the competition during the International Bear Rendezvous last weekend in San Francisco. Other winners among the 20 contestants were Harold Hillman, Grizzly Bear; and Dave Ward, Daddy Bear.



Rick Gerhart

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# Gay Lutheran ordained as youth minister at East Bay churches

by Dennis Conkin

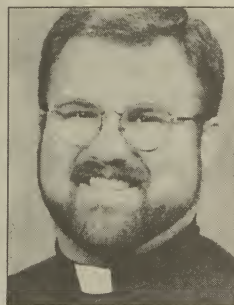
A gay Lutheran man was ordained as a youth minister by three East Bay Lutheran congregations on Sunday, February 18, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Oakland.

Craig Minich, 28, a graduate of Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley, had served as lay director of the East Bay Lutheran Ministry for the last 18 months prior to his ordination.

Minich's candidacy for ordination to the post was not approved by the anti-gay Evangelical Lutheran Church in America because he is an openly gay man who is in a long term relationship.

The 5.6 million member ELCA refuses to ordain lesbians and gay men to the ministry unless they pledge lifelong celibacy and has previously retaliated against Lutheran congregations for such extraordinary ordinations by expelling them from the denomination.

"Even though I had glowing recommendations, two master's degrees, and a caring and justice-centered heart, I was told by the church that I would not be approved for ordination solely be-



Craig Minich

cause I was gay and in a relationship," Minich said in a statement about his calling to the ministry.

"I was told over and over by my examining committee that they would love to have me as a pastor but they had to think of the integrity of the larger church," he said.

Minich called the double messages "maddening" and said that the three congregations who called him to the ministry were "courageous."

"These congregations believe that God's love is more powerful than outdated church law - which

is discriminatory and degrading of queer people."

Minich was called by St. Paul's Lutheran Church, United Lutheran Church in Oakland, and University Lutheran Chapel, all members of the conservative ELCA.

Minich directs a multi-congregational youth ministry, which is strongly supported by Lutheran Lesbian and Gay Ministry, which encourages and supports candidates for ordination who are lesbian and gay but do not support the ELCA celibacy requirement for ordination. Heterosexual pastors of the denomination are not required to be celibate.

"We regret that the larger church, the ELCA, continues to resist full inclusion of its lesbian and gay members, and therefore to deny their gifts of ministry," said Paul Basting, president of St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

Basting said the congregation was "compelled by God's spirit to offer what we feel is prophetic leadership to our church by taking this action."

An estimated 240 people attended Minich's ordination. The three churches could face sanction from the denomination for the action, including expulsion. ▼

## HMI 'Spring Fling' this Wed.

by Liz Highleyman

This Wednesday, February 28, the Harvey Milk Institute will hold its annual fundraising event. The "Spring Fling" celebrates HMI's seventh year of offering classes for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer communities. A new addition to this year's event is an after-party benefit presented by Sister Spit.

The Spring Fling, which begins at 6 p.m., will be co-hosted by sex-positive author Carol Queen and transgender activists Patrick and Matt Califia-Rice. Entertainment will be provided by performance artists Lisi DeHaas and Gina Gold and "stand-up comedy diva" Maureen Brownsey. Sister Kitty Catalyst

and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence will provide a special blessing.

Immediately following Spring Fling at 9 p.m., Sister Spit presents Killer Kings and Twisted Poets, a spoken word benefit. Performers will include Sister Spit co-founder Sini Anderson, Marci Blackman, Lynnee Breedlove, Kristy Fleming, Sara Gina Jones, Kassy Kayiatos, Kris Kovic, and Ray Van. Special drag king performances will be presented by Electro, Corey Feelgood, and Rat Bastard. There will also be live music by Flatcracker.

According to Anderson, "HMI gives emerging artists much-needed help and exposure by providing teaching and networking opportunities and assistance with grants and publicity, and they do all of this with very limited financial resources. Now it's the artists' turn to give back to HMI."

Tickets for the Spring Fling begin at \$50. Admission to the Sister Spit benefit is on a sliding scale from \$15-30, with no one turned away for lack of funds. According to HMI

Executive Director and Dean Kevin Schaub, "We realize that for some of HMI's constituency, \$50 for an event ticket can be steep. That's why we're grateful to Sister Spit for hosting the after-party benefit so that even more people can support our work." Funds raised by the Spring Fling and the Sister Spit show will go toward HMI's scholarship and general operating funds. HMI is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, and donations are tax-deductible.

HMI's latest catalog, filled with over 100 classes and special events, is now available at several locations throughout the Bay Area, including A Different Light Bookstore, and can be accessed online at www.harveymilk.org. Spring semester classes begin on March 1. ▼

The events take place at the Women's Building, 3543 18th Street near Valencia. For information or tickets, call (415) 552-7200 or visit www.harveymilk.org/fling.shtml.

## Leather fair producers seek beneficiaries

The SMMILE Board of Directors, producers of the annual Up Your Alley and Folsom Street fairs, as well as the popular Bare Chest Calendar, has announced that the organization is accepting applications for beneficiaries for this year's fundraising activities. Applications are available through the SMMILE office and must be received or postmarked no later than Friday, March 9 for consideration.

Last year's street fairs raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for several local organizations.

Interested organizations can request an application by writing SMMILE Inc., 584 Castro Street, PMB 533, San Francisco, CA 94117. For more information, call (415) 862-3247, or e-mail SMMILE @ FolsomStreetFair.com. The Web site is www.FolsomStreetFair.com. ▼

- Cynthia Laird



# Meet the neighbors

## Homeless shelter for queer youth set to open

by Cynthia Laird

The remodeling is nearly finished, and soon, the former City Athletic Club in San Francisco's Castro District will be providing shelter for up to 15 homeless LGBTQQ young adults. While the project had been bitterly contested among some merchants and residents in the gay neighborhood since it was first announced in August 1999, renovations have almost been completed and the public is invited to an open house this Wednesday, February 28.

San Francisco Supervisor Mark Leno, who has spearheaded the transitional housing facility, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he expects the project to open next month.

The transitional housing program is being overseen by the San Francisco Department of Public Health, which contracted out program services to the nonprofit Ark of Refuge. Up to 15 young adults between the ages of 18 and 24 will be housed at the facility for periods of three to six months.



Construction continues at 2500 Market, site of the new queer youth housing program.

Thomas Landry, director of the project for Ark of Refuge, said that staff training is nearing completion and he hopes to begin client intake evaluations next week. "It may be a week or two before the clients move in," he added.

Because the program is not a drop-in shelter, participants will

have to first undergo intake evaluations before being referred to the facility. In addition to room and board, the Ark of Refuge will offer a full range of treatment and counseling services to the clients, including employment counseling, health care, and substance abuse treatment.

At the upcoming open house, Leno said that area residents and merchants will have an opportunity to talk with program staff, see the remodeling work, and hear about the program. ▼

The open house will be held at 2500 Market Street, from 6-8 p.m.

# LGBT economic report issued

by Katie Szymanski

Anyone who still believes that gays represent the epitome of wealth has obviously never looked at the law, lived with discrimination, or experienced San Francisco's cost of living. Without automatic financial rights like those granted through marriage, non-traditional families are affected by the economy more profoundly than others. As affordable housing dwindles, more LGBT people will be forced out of the city, and displacement ultimately leads to more hate crimes in smaller towns, where many queers are forced to relocate and many locals do not appreciate their visibility.

It's time for the community to develop a financial plan of action, according to the findings released February 12 in "Economic Empowerment for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Communities," a report by the San Francisco Human Rights Commission. The report is the first commissioned by a city agency in the United States, based on information gathered at an historic hearing in May 2000. It contains 72 findings, including:

- Declining economic stability is pushing vulnerable segments of the LGBT community out of San Francisco and destroying the diversity and tolerance for which the city is known.

- The notion that the LGBT community is wealthy is a myth.

- The city and county of San Francisco benefits directly from the labors of the LGBT community.

- Isolation and lack of support experienced by many LGBT persons exacerbate existing economic challenges.

- Many LGBT organizations are struggling because of a lack of funds.

- San Francisco government has a long way to go in making its own workplaces safe for transgen-

der people.

- People with HIV/AIDS have limited employment choices.

- Owner move-in evictions are often merely a pretext to oust a long-term rent-controlled tenancy and result in the re-renting of the space at astronomical market rates.

The report also contains 94 recommendations on how to solve the problems identified and further the well-being of the LGBT community, including:

- That the city and county donate resources to study the economic status of the community.

- That city departments that collect demographic data add sexual orientation and gender identity as targeted categories.

- That the LGBT community undertake a serious and sincere effort to collaborate with other groups struggling for economic justice, including the elderly, immigrants, women, and people of color.

- That LGBT minority-owned businesses seek certification to benefit from the 10 percent discount when pursuing city contracts.

- That all existing job training programs be open and inclusive of transgender participants.

- That the city increase its housing subsidies for people with AIDS.

- That merchants avoid posting discriminatory anti-homeless signs.

The testimony on which the report is based came from many community participants, including volunteers, elected city officials, activists, writers, and people with AIDS. According to a statement issued last week, the report will be used as the basis for an LGBT economic empowerment effort and "the commission plans to work aggressively to achieve implementation of the recommendations." ▼

The LGBT economic report can be found at [www.ci.sf.ca.us/sfhumanrights/lg\\_info.htm](http://www.ci.sf.ca.us/sfhumanrights/lg_info.htm)

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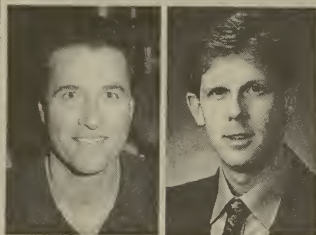
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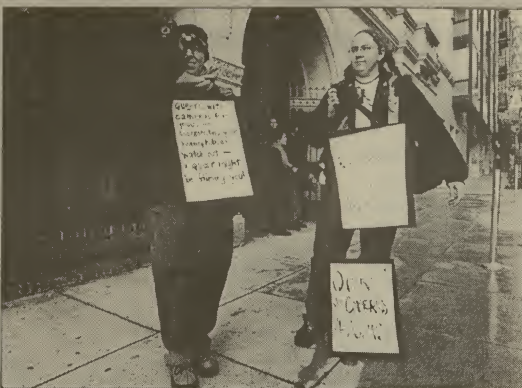
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## No-show for gay-bashers



Rick Gehlert

Red Phelps and his band of anti-gay pickets were a no-show at Glide Memorial Church Sunday, February 18, but that didn't stop Gina Carducci, left, and Shilo McCabe, with Artists that are Queer at the California College of the Arts, from launching a counter-protest in front of the church. Phelps's Web site had indicated the group would be picketing Glide to mark the seventh anniversary of the death of gay reporter and author Randy Shilts, whose 1994 funeral was held at the church.

## Your treat

by Jane Warner

**B**eck's Motor Lodge, 2222 Market, February 16, 9:30 a.m.:

The motel manager called police after she became concerned about a credit card used by a couple who had been staying at the hotel for the last two weeks. The card was issued to a man who had originally checked in with the couple two weeks earlier, but who had only stayed one night. Police contacted the man, who said he had met the couple while at the End Up bar and invited them to stay at his room because they were too intoxicated to drive home. The man told police he left the next morning and had no idea that the couple stayed on for two more weeks, using his credit card number and running up a tab of \$1,800. Police knocked on the motel room where the suspects were staying, but the pair was nowhere to be found.

### Piggy bank

**Don't Panic, 541 Castro, February 11, 8:45 p.m.:** A man walked into the T-shirt store before closing and yelled to the clerk, "This is a robbery!" The clerk turned to look and saw that the man was holding a chrome colored handgun. The robber asked the location of the store's surveillance cameras and then demanded the

clerk empty the cash register. Fearing for her life, the clerk complied and gave him cash from the till. The suspect also took two bags of money from the store's safe. After telling the clerk to turn around and count to 500, the suspect fled out the door in an unknown direction. The armed robber, described as a white male, 6 feet 4 inches, 280 pounds, 28-

34 years old, with a strawberry blond goatee and large pot belly, wearing a cowboy hat, black jacket with red fringe, and black pants, is believed to be the same suspect responsible for numerous armed robberies of San Francisco motels in the last few

months. If anyone has any information concerning these robberies or the above suspect, they are asked to call SFPD's Robbery Division at (415) 553-1201.

### Dream, interrupted

**2000 block of Market, February 14, 3 p.m.:** A woman was taking an afternoon nap with her 2-year-old daughter in the living room of their apartment when she awoke to a noise coming from the bedroom down the hall. When the woman went to investigate, she saw a man touching items on the dresser and the window wide open. The man quickly turned and looked at the woman, stating, "I guess I've got the wrong house." The intruder, described as a

white male, 25-30 years old, 5 feet 11 inches, 160 pounds, wearing a dark baseball cap and dark jacket, calmly walked past her and left through the front door. The woman called the police, who were unable to locate the suspect. The only thing discovered missing from the botched burglary was a jar of pennies.

### Dyke hood tour

**Pet's Coffee, 2257 Market, and Mission Station, February 15, 9:20 a.m.:** A man waiting in line at the coffee shop suddenly grabbed the tip jar and ran. The store's manager gave chase and caught the thief just as he was about to run through the doors. A struggle ensued but the manager was able to wrestle the suspect to the floor and hold him until police arrived. Responding officers arrested the suspect, placed him in handcuffs, and transported him to Mission Station. After arriving, the suspect suddenly jerked away from the officer's grasp and ran out of the police parking lot, bolting across Valencia Street. Officers gave chase through Sycamore, Lexington, and San Carlos streets until the suspect was finally caught again. The 20-year-old man was booked for burglary, escape, and possession of narcotics paraphernalia. ▼

The San Francisco Patrol Special Police, which exclusively serves the Castro District, can be reached at (415) 679-1827.

## Migden bills would extend complaint filing time, improve access for disabled voters

by Dennis Conkin

**A**ssemblywoman Carole Migden (D-San Francisco), has introduced two new bills to committee in the state Assembly.

One of the measures would extend the statute of limitations for filing complaints with the state Department of Fair Employment and Housing, and the other measure would improve access to absentee ballots for certain disabled citizens.

Migden represents San Francisco's 13th Assembly District.

Migden's proposed bill, AB276, which is sponsored by Governor Gray Davis, would extend the statute of limitations for discrimination complaints to the state FEHA from one to two years. The agency investigates discrimination

complaints for victims of workplace violence and harassment based on race, color, religion, ancestry, sex, or sexual orientation in the workplace.

"This bill will protect more California workers from hate crimes," Migden said in a press statement. "No decent society can tolerate assault, intimidation, or violence against any person who is lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender, or for any other reason."

Migden said that the extended filing time was needed as an "additional protection" against intensifying anti-lesbian and anti-gay right-wing hate rhetoric.

The second measure introduced by Migden, AB302, would allow individuals who live alone, with no immediate family nearby, to give their absentee ballot to a non-family member to deliver to

the polls on their behalf.

Current state election law requires people unable to make it to polling places because of disability, illness, or other reasons to designate only family member to hand deliver the absentee ballots of the voter's behalf. Migden cited San Francisco's high population of non-native residents in her remarks about the measure.

"Under current law, if one of these individuals has no family member living nearby to drop off his or her ballot, that person is being disenfranchised," she said.

Migden called such a situation "unjust and un-American" and said that her measure was designed to correct the problem and make it easier for people to vote.

Neither measure introduced by Migden will be heard in committee until March at the earliest. ▼



# Police nearing end of probe in mauling case

by Ed Walsh

**S**an Francisco police are close to wrapping up their investigation into the mauling death of Diane Whipple.

"Hopefully we'll have enough to charge them [dog owners Robert Noel and Marjorie Knoller] this week," police Lieutenant Henry Hunter told the *Bay Area Reporter* in an interview on Tuesday, February 20. "But the DA could kick it back to us and say we haven't done enough work yet."

Hunter said he expects the couple to be charged with manslaughter and failing to control a mischievous dog.

Whipple's mother, Pamela Whipple-Kelly, told the *B.A.R.* in an interview this week that she would be disappointed if the District Attorney's office brings only manslaughter charges against Noel and Knoller.

"I was hoping they would get charged on the higher charge of murder-two rather than manslaughter which they could plead down to nothing, which is their MO," she said. "I think these people do deserve to spend time in jail."

In another of a series of unexpected twists in the case, a television reporter uncovered what may be one of the strongest pieces of evidence in the case against Noel and Knoller.

Last Thursday, February 15, KPIX-TV's Christi O'Connor found a book in the couple's apartment called *Manstopper*. The book is an instruction manual on how to train dogs to attack people. It had a handmade cover on it with six black-and-white pictures of Bane, the dog who instigated the January 26 attack on Whipple.

Noel acknowledged to O'Connor that he was given the book by Dale Bretches, a member of the Pelican Bay Aryan Brothers prison gang and a man authorities suspect of running a dog-raising business from prison. Investigators believe Bretches was business partners with fellow Pelican Bay inmate Paul Schneider, whom Noel and Knoller recently adopted as their son.

O'Connor told the *B.A.R.* that she was interviewing Noel about the police search of his apartment and was taking a tour of the home when she noticed the book and asked him about it.

"We just started walking

through and I was looking at many things," said O'Connor. "I noticed a stack of books. I picked one up and he answered my questions about it."

Noel denied that he used the book to train his dogs to attack.

"This is not something we ever intended to undertake," Noel told O'Connor. "If it were to be done, it would be done by professionals such as the fellow who wrote this book. And those dogs would be trained for individuals or police departments."

SFPD's Hunter said the book wasn't there when authorities first search the apartment two weeks ago.

"It could be very important," said Hunter. "But of course they're going to say 'We never used that book. We never trained the dog.'"

Hunter said he's confident the book wasn't there when authorities first searched the apartment two weeks ago. He believes the couple took it out of the home because they were anticipating the search.

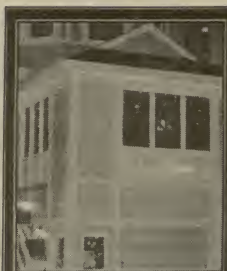
Hunter said police confiscated four guns, some dog magazines, and correspondence between Noel and Knoller and veterinarians about the dogs.

On Wednesday, February 21,



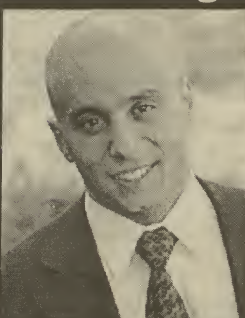
Diane Whipple

outside a hearing to determine whether some documents seized from Noel and Knoller's apartment should be protected under the attorney-client privilege, District Attorney Terence Hallinan told reporters that charges could be weeks away. ▼



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## Whipple's family may file lawsuit

by Ed Walsh

**T**he family of dog mauling victim Diane Whipple may file their own wrongful death lawsuit against Robert Noel and Marjorie Knoller, the owners of the dogs involved in the January 26 attack.

"We probably will but we haven't selected our attorney yet," Whipple's mother, Pamela Whipple-Kelly, told the *Bay Area Reporter* in a telephone interview this week from her home in Connecticut. "It will be an attorney based in San Francisco though."

Whipple-Kelly said she didn't know that Whipple's partner,

Sharon Smith, also planned to sue for wrongful death. As the *B.A.R.* reported last week, if Smith's suit is successful, it would be the first time the partner in a same-sex relationship collected damages in a wrongful death action.

Whipple-Kelly said she also was not aware of her daughter's handwritten will until she was informed of it by the *B.A.R.* this week. Smith's attorney, Michael Cardoza, told the *B.A.R.* that the will had recently been found and it gives the "lion's share" of Whipple's estate to Smith. Whipple-Kelly said she and her mother are named as beneficiaries in her daughter's life insurance policy. Whipple's father is deceased.

"I feel very strongly and close to Sharon," said Whipple-Kelly. "If that [her lawsuit] doesn't happen, she certainly will come under the family umbrella."

Cardoza told the *B.A.R.* that he will work with Kate Kendell, the executive director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights, as his co-counsel on the suit. He met with Kendell on Tuesday, February 20, and said he expected to file suit sometime next week.

Peter Keane, the dean of the Golden Gate University Law School, told the *B.A.R.* that California law puts no limit on the number of parties who can bring a wrongful death suit.

"For instance, each one of five kids could sue if a parent was killed, as well as a spouse or parents who might have some sort of interest in regard to inheritance rights or rights of survivorship," said Keane.

"The difficulty Sharon Smith faces is the non-recognition of domestic partners. If Sharon prevails – and I hope she does – she'll break new ground in regard to domestic partners having the same kind of equitable rights as a traditional married spouse would have," Keane added.

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## Workshops help to decipher your HMO

by Katie Szymanski

**F**rom people who avoid doctors because the referral system is too lengthy, to those who still don't understand where their traditional health insurance went, "Your legal rights within the HMO insurance system," is an important upcoming workshop that will be held in San Francisco this Monday, February 26, and be repeated in Oakland next month.

The free HMO legal workshop is sponsored by the Women's Cancer Resource Center, UCSF Cancer Resource Center, and the San Francisco Bar Association's Volunteer Legal Services program. Designed to answer questions such as what to do if you are denied coverage, and how to complain when a problem with your HMO is not resolved, the workshop will feature presentations by patient advocates, program managers, and cancer survivors speaking from experience.

"There are legal aspects that are difficult to interpret, and there are other avenues available to deal with HMOs and insurance as well," said Elizabeth Ortega of the UCSF Cancer Resource Center. "A lot of everyday people are expected, and lot of health care providers are also coming in order to learn how to better serve their patients."

Monday's workshop is from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Herbst Hall at Mt. Zion Hospital, 2200 Post Street (at Scott) in San Francisco. The same workshop will be repeated in Oakland on Monday, March 5, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the YWCA, 1515 Webster Street, on the second floor.

Pre-registration is recommended, according to Ortega, who can be reached at (415) 885-3693. The events are open to all genders and are wheelchair accessible. ▼

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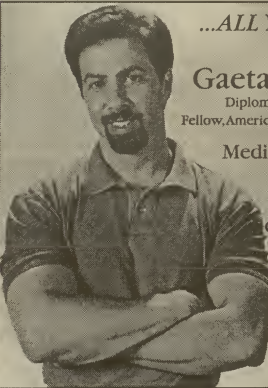
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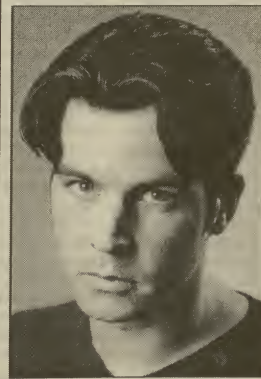
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Volume 31, Number 8  
22 February 2001PUBLISHER  
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## The sounds of silence

The silence coming from Mayor Willie Brown over alleged verbal attacks made to openly gay Redevelopment Commissioner Mark Dunlop by fellow Commissioner Leroy King is unacceptable to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community. While we have no doubt that King has made important contributions to the city over the years, the verbal slugfest that he apparently started last month has yet to be resolved, and its ongoing smoldering can only deepen feelings of mistrust between gays and African Americans in San Francisco. We find it incredulous that Mayor Brown—who has no problem summoning various officials to his office for sit-downs when needed—has been unable or unwilling to meet personally with Dunlop and King in an attempt to settle the matter.

The conflict, which started in January when King allegedly made inappropriate remarks—overheard by a witness—alluding to Dunlop's sexual orientation and HIV status, has not been resolved; in fact, work at Redevelopment Commission meetings has been adversely affected, Dunlop told us last week. In addition to at least one meeting where homophobia spewed forth unabated, the San Francisco Labor Council has so far declined to take a stand against hate, a fact that is not sitting well with gay members of organized labor.

In fact, things have deteriorated to the point that other commissioners are prohibiting Dunlop from speaking at meetings, and the commission president, Benny Yee, has even allowed personal attacks against Dunlop to be lodged at the last couple of meetings. We find these developments repugnant. Dunlop also told us that he has been asked to resign from the commission. Suddenly, the victim is being victimized,

something that, unfortunately, is all too common regarding anti-gay bias in the workplace.

If the situation had been reversed and an African American commissioner had been the target of racist remarks, the city would be in an uproar. As it stands, there seems to be a double standard in San Francisco when it comes to anti-gay and anti-AIDS comments made by public officials; this double standard is appalling, and leaves us with the suspicion that the mayor

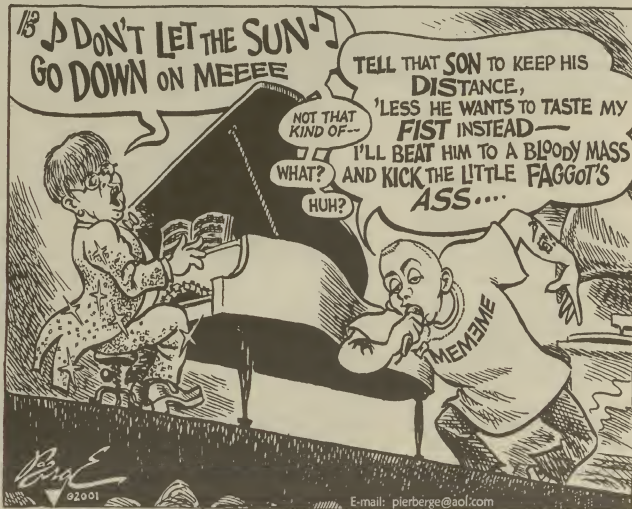
is trying to sweep the whole incident under the rug.

This is a mayor who has been supported by the African American and gay communities for decades, starting with his career as a legislator in Sacramento. Mayor Brown has spent his life fighting discrimination of all kinds.

Why is he silent now? Is it now okay to verbally assault a gay city official? Has a new standard been set? We certainly hope not.

Come on, Mr. Mayor, show us some leadership. ▼

## Editorial



## V-Day for California

by Tim Miller

There are those who might think that celebrating Valentine's Day by having you and your partner refused a marriage license is not the most romantic way to mark the holiday. I suppose I can understand that sentiment, but personally I can't imagine a more real, emotional, and tender way to escape from the Hallmark Card platitudes of February 14. Since more straight folks choose to get engaged or married on Valentine's Day than on any other day of the year, Marriage Equality California staged rallies all over the state to advocate for equal civil marriage rights for gay couples. Gathering outside of courthouses and city halls, Marriage Equality California drew attention to the injustice lesbian and gay partners face in our state by being denied the 1,049 special heterosexual privileges of marriage.

That long list of rights denied gay people matters a lot to my partner and I. Alistair is from Australia and we, like all gay bi-national couples in America, are denied the same immigration privileges that are reserved for straight married couples. We are facing the scary reality that unless America changes its unfair laws, we will be forced to leave the United States in about a year and seek immigration asylum in a more civilized country than the U.S. in order to maintain our relationship.

From Los Angeles to Sacramento, San Francisco to Eureka, hundreds of Californians gathered on Valentine's Day to protest this denial of gay people's civil rights. Alistair and I went to the demonstration at the marriage license office in the courthouse in Beverly Hills. I wanted to mark Valentine's Day with my partner of seven years by protesting how gay folks' relationships are treated so disrespectfully in our country. I hope some day Alistair and I won't need to spend our V-Day putting ourselves in the position where our relationship is refused validation by a governmental official behind bulletproof glass, but that's life in America in 2001.

Surrounded by gay couples and supporters huddled there for support in the shad-

ow of governmental buildings that do not respect our humanity, rally speakers Robin Tyler, Mitchell Anderson, Rabbi Denise Eger, and others spoke passionately against the injustice of not allowing gay and lesbian couples the right to marry. Then—the big moment—the couples who were planning to request a marriage license prepared to challenge the laws of our state.

Alistair and I joined many couples who were going to attempt to apply for a marriage license. First things first, we fill out the form. Immediately the sexism and homophobia of the document leaps out at us and we quickly cross out the word "bride" and "correct" the form so there were two grooms. We took turns in our blocky letters to write down our father's names and what our mothers were married. This was so moving—this ritual of calling up the parents, putting our names and our love on the line.

Sticking close to the nice lesbian couple in front of us—I always look to dykes for moral support—we went through the metal detectors, approached the glassed-in processing windows and gave our form to the official. It was refused, of course. She read from a form (they were prepared) and told us that in the state of California a marriage can only be between a man and a woman. The woman behind the glass, who was very sweet and seemed a little ashamed of her job this particular day, advised us to take it up with our elected officials. Always ready to climb on my soapbox, I said to her, "I know this is not your fault, but I want you to know that because we don't have the same rights as straight Californians, my partner and I will be forced to leave the country next year." She shrugged and tried to melt under the counter. We walked out the double doors clutching our rejected marriage license application.

All over California on Valentine's Day, dozens of same-sex couples lined up at government counters to apply for a marriage license. We peacefully demanded full and legal recognition of our relationships and

one after another were told that gay people cannot request these rights in our state and our applications were all denied. I believe this should piss us off, get us cranky, and maybe get us off our butts.

I have never felt a more tangible denial of my equality than to be being told I can't get a license while straight couples breezed by around me. GRRRR. This felt like one of the most useful demos I've gone to in years. It is almost surreal to have someone explaining to me that my relationship of seven years doesn't count while to my right a straight couple who seemed to have just fallen out of a sleazy singles bar get the seal of approval.

Well, that's how we spent Valentine's Day. By the time we got home later that afternoon,

we were too beat to go have the romantic dinner and then go see *Chocolat* (a straight date movie I

know, but we love Johnny Depp). As we drove home, a vision started to be take form in my mind's eye. I could see a time when filling out this marriage license form wouldn't just be an activist gesture doomed to rejection. There was a sweetness to imagine that some day in the future we might actually live in a society where gay people's love would also be valued. To stand there in front of the courthouse filling out the marriage license form with Alistair had been very powerful for me. Conjecturing that future is going to require many such hopeful and quixotic acts, a thousand such fierce gestures that dare to shout that our love is worthy and our hearts are strong. Happy Valentine's Day. ▼

## Guest Opinion

Tim Miller is a solo performer and the author of *Shirts & Skin*, published by Alyson. He can be reached at <http://hometown.aol.com/millertale/timmiller.html>. He will be performing his show *Glory Box* at U.C. Berkeley Zellerbach Playhouse March 9. All tickets are \$15.00. Tickets are available through TicketWeb online at [www.ticketweb.com](http://www.ticketweb.com) or by calling (510) 601-8932.



## LETTERS

## Go ask Joe

Why does Joe O'Donoghue of the Residential Builders Association have so much disdain for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community?

He has attacked Supervisors Tom Ammann and Mark Leno relentlessly. Is it simply because they are gay? Or is it because Ammann and Leno support the integrity and character of the city's unique neighborhoods that O'Donoghue seems determined to destroy for the sake of profit by constructing unattractive loft buildings and monster homes.

During the recent controversy between Redevelopment Commissioners Leroy King and Mark Dunlop, O'Donoghue threatened Dunlop, who is gay, with these words: "If Commissioner Dunlop was giving you the same body language he has given to me, then I wouldn't have said what you are accused of saying, Commissioner King, I would have elbowed him right in the jaw." Commissioner King is accused of making disparaging remarks about Commissioner Dunlop's sexual orientation ("you're not a real man"), HIV status ("your sickness is starting to affect your mind"), and with threatening him ("I know people who can take of you"). The facts related to this incident are now under investigation by the Police Department and the attorney general.

It's important for the LGBT community to be aware of those who seek to politically intimidate us, especially those who threaten violent acts as a means of keeping us in our place. The LGBT community should continue to work constructively with the African American community and the labor community and not allow our communities to be divided or intimidated by those whose political power is waning. There is one thing that people like Joe O'Donoghue understand - dividing the minority and progressive communities is the only way that straight white conservative males can regain control of San Francisco which they held and abused for so long.

Rich Kowalewski  
San Francisco

## Mortified at labor's stance

Thanks for the level-headed, dispassionate, and responsible coverage of the Leroy King homophobia flap.

As a member of the San Francisco teachers union, I am mortified that the leaders of the San Francisco Labor Council, Walter Johnson and Josie Mooney, saw fit to rush to the defense of Leroy King at the February 6 Redevelopment Commission meeting without the merest pretense of an investigation of the charges.

They dismissed, out-of-hand, the seriousness of the charges against King, with no consultation of the scores of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender labor union members who are active in the San Francisco Labor Council, not to speak of the thousands of LGBT union members who are represented by the council. They were utterly unqualified to make the statements which they made. And they knew better.

That they made the statements they did was craven and unprincipled. I believe that the economic rights of working people are among the most important rights we all have. I also believe in the essential fairness of most members of the labor movement. I will continue to support labor in its just struggles. I ask the LGBT community to do likewise.

This issue will not disappear until it has been corrected. I will continue to speak out until our community gets a just resolution to this controversy.

Vince Quackenbush  
San Francisco

## Discrimination works both ways

Redevelopment Commissioner Mark Dunlop's description of the fracas caused by fellow Commissioner Leroy King's blatantly homophobic, violent, threatening outburst, witnessed and verified by Commissioner Ramon Romero, must be intensively investigated by the Police Department. If proven true, King should be immediately dismissed and prosecuted for an attempted hate crime and violation of Dunlop's civil rights.

This is all reminiscent of Tom Wolfe's 1970 best-selling book, *Mau-Mauing the Flack Catchers*. The fact that King is a black man has no bearing - turn the situation around and we'd have riots in the streets, stores looted, and suits filed against the Police Department. Pulling the "race card" may have worked to get the infamous O.J. Simpson off, but it certainly shouldn't work here. Sadly, discrimination works both ways ... in this case, against an outstanding gay commissioner, by a tiresome bunch of unsuccessful wannabes.

Philip Fay Stevenson  
San Francisco

## Accept responsibility

As a person who enjoys having sex in "different" places and finds the potential for "being caught" an incredible aphrodisiac, I have learned that if you choose to participate in this activity, you also have to

accept the responsibility if you get caught. And, although many gay men have the fantasy of having sex in a gym, gym shower, and/or steam room, these really aren't the places our society says are acceptable places to engage in sexual activity.

Grow up, gentlemen, and accept responsibility for your behaviors.

Thom Ganger  
San Francisco

## Smith should be commended

Sharon Smith should be commended for the action she is taking regarding the death of her partner, Diane Whipple. She is dealing constructively with an overwhelming situation.

The dogs' owners, Robert Noel and Marjorie Knoller, have shown a lack of remorse for the consequences of their pets' behavior, with their claims that Ms. Whipple caused or contributed to the attack.

This brings to mind another type of cruelty which, fortunately, I haven't seen in this case. It is worth mentioning here because of the high level of loyalty and respect which Ms. Smith has shown for her partner.

She is setting an example which others should follow in less tragic situations as well.

It is both sad and infuriating when victims of violent acts are held responsible for what happens to them. Monday morning quarterbacking is popular, and sometimes the ones who are most guilty of it are in a position to be supportive of the victim. My experience has been that people's emotional defenses kick in when they hear about others' misfortunes.

If someone says, "I was mugged on the sidewalk this morning," it's not unusual for that person's alleged friend to respond, "Well, you don't walk very confidently. The mugger probably saw an easy target. That never happens to me because I don't go around asking for trouble."

Helplessness can be frightening. We'd like to think we have the foresight to prevent bad things from happening to us, and our defensiveness in that area can make us brutal with the people who need our help.

When others ask us for empathy in situations which make us uncomfortable, we have a responsibility to consider our own motives. We might be tempted to say things which we would find hurtful if the situation were reversed. Using caution with our mouths can strengthen our friendships and make us more aware of our vulnerabilities.

Ann Mason  
San Francisco

## Another response from the 'Y'

I am a staff member here at the Central YMCA. When I read the letter from Robert Connet (*Mailstrom*, February 8), I was floored! How could anyone say the YMCA is homophobic? A large number of our members and staff are gay and lesbian people. We openly welcome this community.

Inappropriate behavior may be a "wide-open term," however, it should be obvious that certain types of behavior fall directly under that category and should never be observed in a public, community-based facility. We care about our members and don't want them to be unwillingly subjected to this inappropriate behavior. Furthermore, when you join the YMCA, you agree to certain terms. How and when you decide to cancel your membership is one of those terms.

One must take responsibility for his or her actions, not expect them to be overlooked when it suits them.

Finally, with respect to the former member, it was not he who wrote the letter, it was his angry partner.

Serena Jones  
San Francisco

## NGLTF responds to column

The recent column ["Educating gays," *OutRight*, February 8] defending George W. Bush's proposal to funnel tax dollars to religious and other private schools in the form of school vouchers raises an important question: How can we best defend the interests of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender students and teachers?

One answer is to lobby your school district to adopt strong anti-discrimination and anti-harassment policies. Such policies might not apply to religious or other private schools, but they do apply to public schools, where more than 90 percent of students in the United States are educated.

Another answer is to make sure your school offers a nurturing and tolerant atmosphere for all students. In recent years, more than 700 gay-straight alliances have been launched throughout the United States. Currently, Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays is organizing a project entitled, "From Our House to the School House: A Recipe for Safe Schools." Through this program, more than 100 P-FLAG chapters are working with their local school districts to incorporate GLBT-positive images in their

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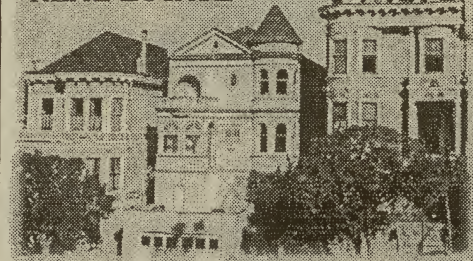
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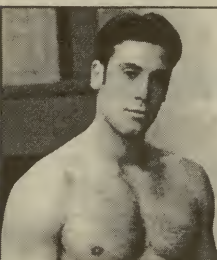
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## Mailstrom

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programs and curricula.

One approach that is decidedly not in the best interest of GLBT students and teachers is to do what voucher proponents recommend: take tax dollars out of public schools and send them to religious schools. We don't demonstrate our commitment to public schools by defunding them — and we can't protect our GLBT students and teachers by denying them needed resources.

While Bush and other conservatives refer to vouchers as "school choice," they actually offer no choice at all. As the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network puts it, "Faced with the choice of a private school that doesn't ensure a discrimination-free learning environment or a system of public education that is further depleted of much-needed funding, LGBT students and their families stand to lose."

The fact is this: If our nation can build an international space station, develop wireless Internet technology, and even unlock the secrets of DNA, then we have what it takes to improve our public schools. All we need is the will to do so.

Elizabeth Toledo, Executive Director  
National Gay and Lesbian Task Force  
Washington, D.C.

## Educate new supes on issues

I'd like to thank the community for their support of me as a candidate in the District 8 supervisor race. While the battle was lost in my district, the war was won with the many independent progressives elected to the board. I'm glad to see that much of my platform is being addressed by the new board including: seeking to restrict the mayor's authority to fill vacancies to the board and all commission appointments; reining in fake live-work lofts; the creation of affordable housing; and a municipal utility district.

Proposition O's passage for campaign finance reform should help candidates like myself who seek to get elected without soft money, deal making, and machine politics. Now that we have a board better representative of the working class, we should consider raising the supervisors' salary to keep these seats accessible to not just the well heeled.

I caution the LGBT community to note the absence of issues such as HIV/AIDS, LGBT civil rights and economic empowerment, and lesbian/women's concerns, in most all of the 87 candidates' platforms. Simply because a candidate identifies as LGBT or LGBT-friendly, does not mean he or she understands these issues or will fight for them. It is up to us to educate and hold accountable the new board on these important issues.

Donors to my campaign can take pride in knowing that the \$910.52 balance in my campaign account was donated to the newly formed Breast Cancer Emergency Fund (415-558-6890).

I applaud all campaign volunteers and those who took the time to study the issues and vote. I learned a lot from the candidate experience and intend on continuing my public service work to make San Francisco financially accessible and diverse for current and future generations of straight and LGBT folks alike.

Gary Virginia  
San Francisco

## Thanks from leather Daddy

On January 28, a near-capacity crowd converged upon the Edge bar to take part in a pre-birthday fundraiser put on by my partner, SF Leather Daddy's Boy XVIII Bob Dern and I. The emcees were Lenny Broberg and Absolute Empress Donna Sachet.

I must thank the following individuals and businesses who donated their talents or gifts to make our endeavor an overwhelming success. I would like to thank Peter Fiske of the AEF board of directors; Dennis Engle, who donated four framed posters; and Richard Hunter, owner of Mr. S Leather, and Skeeter Wildmon for their donation of leather auction items.

A big-time acknowledgment must go out to my mentors and friends: Alan Selby, creator and founder of the SF Leather Daddy and Daddy's Boys titles, for his donation; and to SF Leather Daddy VIII Don Thompson for working the door. Thanks also to Mr. Alameda County Leather Jeff Miranda for modeling the combination harness and restraints; hope you enjoyed the flogging you got from "Mama" Reinhardt.

The members of San Francisco's Imperial family were very much present and also donated their talents. They include Absolute Empress XXV Marlena, Absolute Empress XXXIII Alexis Miranda, Mr. and Miss Gay San Francisco 2001 Phillip Evans and Jada Halston, and Mr. and Miss Gay San Francisco 2000 Berlin and Savannah. As a special treat, Bob and I were honored to have the incomparable Solomon Rose as part of our entertainment and he proved to be extraordinary with his vocal talents.

I would like to thank Mark J. Walsh, manager/buyer for the Rock Hard store on Castro Street, and thanks to Bob Shore of Image Leather;

Mikey, from Male Image; Patrick Batt, owner of Mercury Mail Order; and Kevin Kropp, manager of Harvey's bar and restaurant. Thanks to J.D. Slater for his donation of adult videos. I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge and thank Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt, Don "Ho" Tse, Briggs Holly, and all of Mama's family members who found time to attend and support this fundraising effort.

I think the highlight of the evening had to be the announcement by Peter Fiske that Jim Bretano, who worked the door with Don Thompson, happens to work for Morgan Stanley Dean Witter and by working the door at our fundraiser that night, Morgan Stanley Dean Witter in turn donated \$5,000. Thanks in large part to the aforementioned individuals who took part in the event, we were able to raise \$1,561 to go along with the \$5,000 from MSDW. A total of \$6,561 was raised. Both Bob and I are overwhelmed and deeply grateful to everyone who made this event such a success.

Keith Truitt  
San Francisco Leather Daddy XVIII

## Column missed a component

Given the lurid anti-communism of Julian Schnabel's film *Before Night Falls*, I found Rawley Grau's article ["How did the Russian Revolution affect gays and lesbians?" February 1] a welcome return to a serious discussion of the question of gay and lesbian rights in post-capitalist society.

It's important to remind ourselves that the Bolsheviks were the first to abolish all laws governing adult consensual behavior (December 1917). As Dr. Grigori Batkis, the director of the Moscow Institute of Social Hygiene, stated in his 1923 book, *The Sexual Revolution in Russia*, "Soviet legislation bases itself on the following principle, the absolute non-interference of the state and society into sexual matters, so long as nobody is injured and no one's interests are encroached upon. ... Soviet legislation treats [homosexual practices] exactly the same as so-called 'natural' intercourse. All forms of sexual intercourse are private matters." As a result, gay people enjoyed wide and unprecedented freedom, and, for a time, their influence in the cultural life of the early Soviet Republic, especially the artistic and dramatic avant-garde, flourished.

Grau, however, misses an important component of this process, namely, the liberation of Soviet women from their traditional oppression. By abolishing the Tsarist family code and making the rearing and education of children a social rather than private responsibility, the Bolsheviks freed women from the domestic drudgery of the "home" and thus opened the door to their full and equal participation in social and political life. Without this usurpation of the patriarchal family as the main prop of the social order, along with the bigotry and mystification of sexuality that enshrined it, gay and lesbian freedom would have been impossible.

Of course, as Grau points out, anti-gay attitudes ingrained over centuries were not expunged overnight, but he slides over the Stalinist counterrevolution as the key factor in the revival of traditional family values and the censure of homosexuality in the 1930s. The poverty, isolation, and destruction that followed the Revolution crushed the hopes for a new society and made possible the consolidation of a bureaucratic police state with interests antithetical to personal liberation. As a consequence, the anti-gay bigotry of the 1934 Soviet Family Code was incorporated into the canon of "official" Marxism for decades thereafter.

Unfortunately, it was this legacy that heavily influenced the Cuban revolutionaries, who were allied with the Stalinists when the Batista dictatorship was overthrown in 1959. The roundups and UMAP labor camps were the ugly fruit of this alliance, as Reinaldo Arenas, the author of *Before Night Falls*, describes in detail. What he doesn't tell us is that it was on Fidel Castro's initiative that the camps were soon dismantled, and that the rights granted Cuban women, including free contraception, abortion, child care, no-fault divorce, and equal employment under the Revolution, ultimately made possible the abolition of all laws against homosexuality in the 1980s. In short, the promise of sexual freedom cut short in Russia was revived in Cuba, as demonstrated by state support for pro-gay films like *Strawberry and Chocolate* and the widening space for gay life despite the hardships imposed by the collapse of trade with the old East bloc and the continuing U.S. embargo.

While Grau ends his article associating Gorbachev's *glasnost* policy with the rebirth of the Russian gay and lesbian movement, I think history teaches a very different lesson, namely, that gay and lesbian freedom is not possible without the abolition of the nuclear family and the liberation of women, which only a revolution can guarantee — a thought we can all ponder as the agenda of gay marriage, adoption, and service in the U.S. military is rammed down our throats.

Peter Anastos  
San Francisco



## POLITICS

# Bill Clinton is still making headlines

by Wayne Friday

**B**ill Clinton and Al Gore are fighting; in fact, they're not even speaking. Clinton sold presidential pardons. Clinton tried manipulating the government for an \$800,000-a-year penthouse office overlooking Central Park. Clinton plays golf at a segregated course. Clinton accepts \$100,000 for his first civilian speech. Bill and Hillary cart off furniture belonging to the White House. It doesn't even seem to stop.

After eight controversial years in the White House, during which the country heard all about his celebrated affair with **Monica Lewinsky**, and renting out the Lincoln Bedroom as an expensive Motel 6 to big-time campaign contributors, one might have thought that Clinton's finally leaving 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue would give us all a much-needed relief from the shenanigans and tell-all

front page stories of the life of William Jefferson Clinton. It was not to be, of course.

While many Americans (myself included) feel that Clinton was a good (good, not great) president, giving the country eight years of peace and prosperity rarely seen before, others — Republicans in particular — are not about to let up on the guy. True, the former president brings most of it upon himself. I mean, where does this guy get off pardoning the fugitive financier **Marc Rich**? Stupid. Clinton said in an op-ed piece in Sunday's *New York Times* that his pardon of Rich came "in the interest of justice" (and when it comes to Clinton's definition of "justice" that can have any number of meanings) and that he acted after extensive weighing of "legal and foreign policy reasons" supporting the pardon. What? Well, maybe he was right, but he sure did his political enemies a favor in issuing the Rich pardon. Republicans can't resist railing against the man they love to hate and Clinton's highly questionable last-minute pardon of a man whose ex-wife gave nearly a half million to the proposed Clinton library, after having donated \$1 million to the Democratic Party, gives the Republicans just the fodder they need to keep up the anti-Clinton drumbeat.

Reporters sometimes wonder why the 1-month-old Bush presidency is looking so good; in large part it's because in contrast to Clinton's ex-presidency, just about anything would look at least presentable. As one well-known writer put in last week, "it's not so much that honor and dignity have been restored to the White House under George Bush as much as order, maturity, and the prospect that when he leaves office (hopefully, in four years) we won't have to count the silver — or the sofas." Instead of leaving Washington in a dignified, relatively quiet manner as most ex-presidents do, Clinton has held numerous press conferences, sought out multimillion dollar multimedia deals, and during a dinner in Greenwich Village was overheard loudly telling lesbian jokes. Not pretty, Bill.

And what happened to all those

"loyal" Clintonians who so solidly stood behind the president while he has having the Oval Office affair with Lewinsky and lying to his aides, friends, and the entire country about it? Well, they've reportedly deserted Clinton in droves. *Time* magazine reports this week that one former Cabinet secretary who has supposedly canvassed a half dozen other former Clinton Cabinet members said that their reaction to the Rich pardon and the gift scandals was "total disgust," adding that "they no longer want any part of Clinton — they have had it with both of them (Bill and Hillary)."

Other Democratic figures — Gore included — apparently, are complaining that Clinton's continuing antics since leaving the presidency have helped drag down Democratic Party fundraising. In Florida, where Democrats say they need at least \$12 million to defeat Governor **Jeb Bush** in 2002, a top Democratic fundraiser said that normally

dependable donors are refusing to give money because of allegations that Clinton granted presidential pardons for cash. No doubt the Republicans will continue to play the "good cop, bad cop" game with Clinton as long as they can. **George W. Bush** says publicly that "it's time to move on," while his closest political aides continue to leak anti-Clinton rumors and stories, but this, too, should eventually die down. If only there was a Democrat — any Democrat — willing to tell Clinton to go hang out on a beach somewhere away from the media for the next couple of months. That would, of course, kill the publicity hungry former president, but the only person I can think of who has the nerve to tell Clinton to lie low and keep his mouth shut is a woman who represents New York in the U.S. Senate. Quick, Senator Clinton, find something for Bill to do other than sit around Village spots telling jokes or walking the streets of Harlem playing to the adoring masses. Quick, Hillary, think of something — fast!

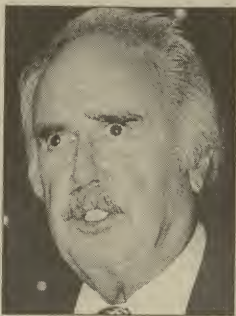
## Politics and people

And as if isn't already bad enough that Clinton continues to walk around with that cloud over his silver mane, some reports have it that Yale University, the former president's alma mater, is already nervous about its invitation to Clinton to help commemorate its 300th anniversary this spring. "We sure hope all this blows over by then because he's an alum, so there's not much we can do," said one organizer.

Last week's column about actor **Arnold Schwarzenegger** as a potential Republican candidate for governor brings news of yet another possible GOP candidate in 2002 against Governor **Gray Davis**. **William E. Simon**, a millionaire investment banker from Los Angeles and the son of a former U.S. Treasury secretary, is telling GOP operatives around the state that he is "ready and willing" to run and to finance his own campaign with big bucks. California voters have long shown an aversion against wealthy, self-financed millionaire candidates —

think **Norton Simon**, **Michael Huffington**, and **Al Checchi**.

From Sacramento comes word that state Senate President **John Burton** indeed rules with a heavy



State Senator John Burton

hand; with nine of the Senate's 40 members taking last Friday off so as to get an early start on the long Presidents Day weekend, Burton placed a formal ban on absences while the Legislature grapples with the ongoing energy crisis. The exception, Burton said, are serious illness, a family member's death, "or your own untimely demise."

In Houston, Mayor **Lee Brown**, not a big favorite of gay and lesbian activists, last week shelved a proposal to offer benefits to same-sex partners of city workers. Instead, officials there will consider drafting an ordinance to ban discrimination against gays and lesbians, including a guarantee that city workers can't lose their jobs because of sexual orientation or if they apply for benefits for same-sex partners.

Any hope of the Bay Bridge tolls returning to \$1 as originally promised is likely gone: Caltrans is expected to report to the Legislature that the cost of replacing the eastern span of the San Francisco-Oakland bridge has now climbed from \$1.6 billion to more than \$2.2 billion.

A death on prime time? **Timothy McVeigh**, who masterminded 1995's Oklahoma City bombing, is scheduled to be executed on May 16 and there has been a request from McVeigh himself that the entire bone-chilling affair be televised. Hey, could it be much worse than the bug-eating shenanigans of *Survivor* or the boring bump-and-grind salaciousness of *Temptation Island*?

From Salt Lake City there is word that Utah's new porn czar, lawyer **Paula Houston**, 40, claims she's a virgin who rarely watches R-rated flicks. However, Houston insists that she knows smut when she sees it; while her critics say her lack of personal sexual experience disqualifies her from passing judgment on what constitutes porn, supporters insist that she's morally qualified.

And now back to Bill and Hillary. Despite the clamor over the Clinton's walking away with White House furnishings before they returned them, they certainly aren't unique. **William Seale**, who edits the newsletter of the White House Historical Society, says the question of presidential gifts "has been a raw nerve for 200 years." Seale says **Jacqueline Kennedy** took a pair of antique tables and that the White House actually had to pay her \$16,100 to buy back a drawing she had re-

next page ►

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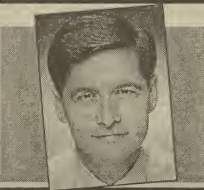


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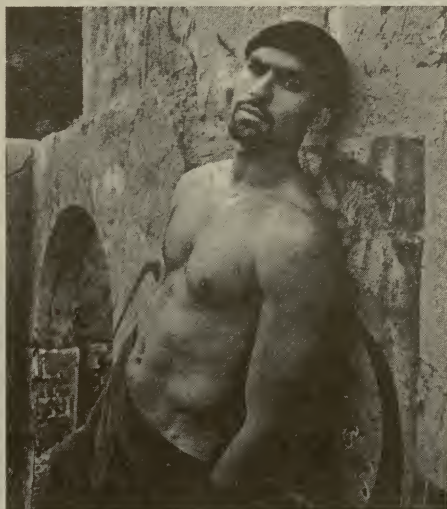
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# Coming in from the outside

by Gwendolyn Ann Smith

**B**ack in the late 1970s, a scandal rocked my family. My cousin, Robert, came out as gay.

This was the era of Anita Bryant and the Briggs initiative. A time when having an openly gay San Francisco supervisor was unique and, apparently, punishable by death. A time when being gay was beyond mere scandal, but a family tragedy. And here was my family, right in the middle of it all.

I was on the edge of my first puberty back then, and sat on the sidelines throughout many of the family's discussions over my cousin. My parents, especially my mom, had no major qualms with my cousin's homosexuality, but others in the family showed less compassion. It was pretty clear that there was a certain aura of fear being projected around him, and that he was something different from "the rest of us."

For the most part, it was little more than an academic family discussion. Robert had his own life, in San Francisco away from the family, and we simply did not see much of each other. I suspect that much of his reclusiveness was based on feeling — to use his own words — like "Marilyn in *The Munsters*."

I know that feeling. In fact, I suspect that many of you have experienced that sense of being on the outside. That is, of being seen as something so hideous, so freaky, that it's the "moral imperative" to cast us out. I rather like the allusion to *The Munsters*, the concept of the freak being otherwise "normal." Just another upstanding family on Mockingbird Lane, but one kept away from others because of their frightening appearance and peculiar behaviors. And in the middle of it all is Marilyn, the "normal" daughter, turned freak within the Munster family.

Someone who not only doesn't fit in the world, but also doesn't quite make it amongst their own kin.

Though I would hardly compare my parents to Fred Gwynne and Yvonne DeCarlo's television counterparts, I do know what it's like to be "Marilyn." When I came out, I too filled those shoes, and I suspect I made for some interesting family discussions.

It was around the time that I came out as transgendered that I first thought of finding my cousin. Later, when I relocated to the Bay Area, I had expected to find him, but it just never happened. I just couldn't get any contact information. Until about three weeks ago, when my mom called.

She told me that my cousin was in the hospital, and the situation sounded grave. He was admitted for a burst appendix, which led to the doctors finding some other problems, and which further led to them discovering lymphoma, a cancer of the lymphatic system. She really didn't have much information beyond this, other than which hospital to find him.

Any number of thoughts danced in my head. It was obvious that I should visit, but how would I be received? He would have no

knowledge of my transition, so I worried about how he may react to discovering that his cousin was transgendered. For that matter, I worried that he may have assumed that I was like some of the others in my family — the folks who made the "your aunt had three kids, one of each sex" jokes — and assume that I had other reasons for avoiding him all that time.

I also didn't know what I would see when I reached the hospital door. Would this relative of mine, the one with the killer wit and great outlook, be only a shadow of his old self?

On that last note, I have to deviate a bit.

You see, my cousin isn't the only Robert to have graced my life, nor the only one to know what it is to be treated as an outsider. He's also not the only one to face cancer.

In 1996 I met Robert Eads, a transman from Georgia. I saw him before being introduced, this gentleman in a cowboy hat, walking with a cane. He wore a pair of glasses and a mustache. But it wasn't these details that really caught my eye: it was his smile. This broad grin that instantly tells you that no matter what "outside" you have been placed in, with him you are welcome. He and I became fast friends.

The next year I heard he had ovarian cancer, and that some 20 doctors had turned him away for treatment. Once a doctor did finally check him out, it was too late to do anything. Still, with a death sentence, he remained positive — and refused to accept any role as



an outsider, enjoying the company of his own chosen and blood relatives to the end.

Robert Eads passed away in January 1999, and his story is in a movie called *Southern Comfort*. At this year's Sundance Film Festival, it won the Documentary Grand Jury Prize. I suspect that it will make its way to the city before too long.

Even at his worst, Robert Eads never lost his dignity, or that smile. And because of that, he was never fully on the outside. And the same can be said of my Cousin Robert.

Although he was in a tangle of tubes and wires, my cousin was in good spirits when I visited. Jovial in spite of the pain. The lymphoma isn't that far along, and should be treatable. With his outlook, I suspect he may just beat this thing.

But beyond that, we were able to reconnect. There is much to catch up on, and much to share between two outsiders who were able to rejoin, at long last, as kin.

A regular Munsters family reunion. ▼

Gwen Smith notes that, genealogically speaking, she is a member of the Addams Family. She can be found on the Web in Gay.com's "Transgender Gazebo," and at [www.gwensmith.com](http://www.gwensmith.com).

## Our Man Friday

◀ page 9

moved; Millard Fillmore took a coach and six bay horses; James Monroe once sold his personal furniture to the White House to finance his travels, then re-acquired it before leaving the office in 1825; and Nancy Reagan reportedly left the White House with \$1 million worth of dresses, jewelry, shoes, and accessories. Mrs. Reagan, in fact, drew heavy criticism — and the interest of the IRS — for her propensity for "borrowing" \$20,000 dresses from famed designers. The first lady promised to stop the habit but then changed her mind. In fact, in her book, *My*

*Turn: The Memoirs of Nancy Reagan* (Random House, 1989) she took a parting shot at her critics by concluding that "one reason [for all the criticism of her] may be that some women aren't all that crazy about a woman who wears a size 4 and seems to have no trouble staying slim." The king of White House swag, however, appears to have been Ulysses S. Grant, who reportedly considered all White House gifts to be rewards for his accomplishments in battle. Grant and various family members made off with tables inlaid with pearl and precious metals, expensive Asian ceramic urns, scrolls of gold brocade, and loads of other White House riches.

And how was your week? ▼

## Simply Supper benefit at MCC-SF Sunday

by Dennis Conkin

**S**inger-songwriter and acoustic guitarist Tommi Aviccolli Mecca will be the featured entertainer at a benefit for the Simply Supper program this Sunday, February 25, at Metropolitan Community Church-San Francisco, 150 Eureka Street in the Castro.

The event is a fundraiser to renovate the kitchen at the facility, so the group can better serve homeless residents who receive two evening meals a week at the site, according to Elba Montes, who directs the program.

Dinner will be served from 5-7 p.m. in the church's second floor social hall. The menu will feature meat and vegan tamales, rice, green salad, chips and salsa, and cake. Beverages will be available, and a raffle will be held during the dinner. Donations are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors, and \$5 for children.

For more information contact MCC-SF at (415) 865-2742. ▼



# New survey shows gay opportunities and challenges

by Dale Carpenter

A new survey sponsored by the nonpartisan Gill Foundation reinforces some common ideas about the gay civil rights movement and suggests new directions for organizational emphasis. It also leaves much room for further study.

First, however, a cautionary word is needed about the survey's methodology. It relied in part on a new polling technique known as "online interactive research." This technique allows respondents to answer questions in a survey online, rather than on the telephone or in face-to-face interviews. In theory, this approach better secures the privacy of respondents, encouraging them to be more honest than they might be in a personal polling interview. In polls related to sexual orientation, the need for such discretion is especially keen.

But the online polling method also has drawbacks. Study respondents tend to be disproportionately male and young. Gay males outnumbered females two-to-one in the survey, as they do in most surveys of gays. Racial minorities identified as gay were slightly over-represented in comparison to their numbers in the general population. There are statistical ways to minimize this skewing of the sample, and the survey attempts to do so. But even these techniques are inadequate when we have no sure-fire way of knowing what would comprise an appropriate sample of a sexual minority like gays.

Those qualifications noted, the survey offers some interesting insights into gay opinion. Alas, there is not much good news for gay conservatives. A healthy plurality of gays (43 percent) consider themselves politically "moderate." But the next largest group is self-described "liberals" (36 percent), followed by "conservatives" (11 percent). Compare those numbers to the figures for the general population, which is 40 percent moderate, 35 percent conservative, and only 19 percent liberal.

It could be that the self-described "moderate" category actually includes many people with conservative policy preferences

who refuse to call themselves "conservative" because they associate the word with people like Senator Jesse Helms (R-North Carolina). It would be useful for future poll-takers to measure gays' political self-identification against their actual positions on taxes, defense policy, capital punishment, and the like. Then we'll know how conservative gays really are.

On specific gay issues, there is some encouragement for those who emphasize the importance of same-sex marriage. On a ranking of issues "most important" to the gay community, legal recognition of same-sex relationships finished first, with 35 percent. Laws prohibiting employment discrimination placed second on the list, with 27 percent. Hate crimes laws finished third at 22 percent. Gays in the military finished dead last (tied with gay adoptions), with only 8 percent of respondents considering it the top priority. These findings may suggest a need for gay organizations to re-order their priorities, putting more emphasis on legal recognition of gay relationships and less on hate crimes laws.

It would be helpful, however, for a future survey to ask how gays rank these priorities, not just which priority is the highest. It would also be useful to measure disagreement among gays on some "gay" issues, especially hate crimes laws, on which there has been considerable intra-community debate.

Perhaps more interesting is the survey's findings on the attitudes of the general population. First, the good news: a full 91 percent of Americans now say they know someone gay. The continual exhortation to individuals to come out of the closet appears to have worked. It's unimaginable that a pre-Stonewall survey would have found such a high number of Americans familiar with gays. Of "familiar voters," 36 percent know a gay co-worker, 26 percent know a close personal friend who is gay, and 21 percent know a gay family member.

The survey also reinforces the common view that coming out powerfully affects the attitudes of

the people around you. Familiar voters — those who know an openly gay person — are far more likely than non-familiar voters to support hate crimes legislation protecting gays (82 percent familiar versus 74 percent non-familiar), employment discrimination laws protecting gays (74 percent versus 58 percent), allowing gays to serve openly in the military (64 percent versus 46 percent), legal recognition of same-sex civil unions (47 percent versus 22 percent), and adoptions by gay parents (47 percent versus 19 percent). Unfortunately, the survey did not ask respondents' views on sodomy laws, which still exist in 18 states.

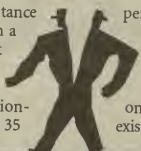
Familiar voters are also more likely to consider gay issues "important" in their voting decisions. They are correspondingly less likely to support a candidate who expresses negative views about gays.

Here's the bad news. If so many Americans say they know a gay person, and if coming out has such high impact, why does prejudice persist? Has the coming-out strategy reached the limits of its effectiveness? What do we do now?

The answers are surely complicated. For example, the survey concludes gays are more likely to be open about their sexual orientation with friends and even co-workers than with family members. It would be useful to know whether pro-gay policy preferences correlate with the degree to which someone knows some gay person. Are people who know an openly gay family member more supportive than those who know only an openly gay friend or an openly gay co-worker? If so, it matters not just that we come out, but to whom.

The answer to that question, too, awaits a future study. But the Gill Foundation has made a good start helping us understand ourselves and the people around us. ▼

Dale Carpenter, a law professor, is the winner of three Vice Versa awards for excellence in gay writing. He can be reached at [OutRight@aol.com](mailto:OutRight@aol.com).



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## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Lining up in 'play clothes'



Members of the "Suburban Middle-aged von Trapp Family Singers" donned "play clothes" costumes and attended the Sing-a-Long Sound of Music Sunday, February 18, at the Castro Theatre. The audience-participation version of the classic film continues its run through March 1. For ticket information, call (510) 601-TWEB.

Janie Philomen Chelard

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# Candidates set sights on 2002

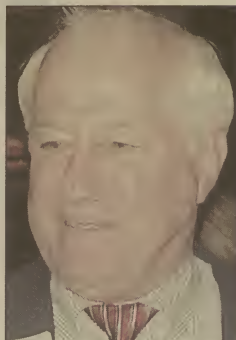
by Bob Roehr

The presidential election is barely over and already talk is flying about 2002. Jim Kolbe, the only openly gay Republican in Congress, is thinking about going back home to Arizona. He is not contemplating retirement but a run for governor.

"I've had some people suggest it, so I'm exploring whether it's doable or not," Kolbe told *Roll Call*. He had a strong opponent in 2000 but won re-election with 60 percent of the vote. Term limits prevent Governor Jane Dee Hull from seeking a third term.

If he does decide to run, Kolbe would be the first credible openly gay candidate for governor in any state. After eight terms in Congress, serving as governor would be the capstone of a political career for the 58-year-old legislator.

It also seems likely that Arizona would retain openly gay representation in its congressional delegation and perhaps add to it. The state gains two seats through reapportionment. State legislators Ken Cheuvront (D) and Steve May (R), as well as Tempe Mayor Neil Giuliano (R) have indicated interest in running for Congress. All would be strong candidates.



Congressman Jim Kolbe (R-AZ)

Senator John McCain has said that he is leaning toward not running for a fourth term in 2004. That would open up even more political opportunities in Arizona for either that Senate seat or other

possible offices in a state that has a good farm team of credible openly gay candidates.

Donna Brazile seems to be considering a run for the Washington, D.C. City Council, according to a column in the February 17 *Washington Post*. The African American woman was political director, then elevated to campaign manager of Al Gore's presidential bid.

Many presume that she is a lesbian, in part because she served on the board of directors for the 2000 Millennium March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. But when Brazile became Gore's campaign manager in October 1999, she dodged the question and declined to comment on her sexual orientation.

As former chief of staff to the District's congressional representative, Brazile, 40, is well known and well positioned to take on Democratic incumbents in either

her Capitol Hill ward or while running for a citywide seat. But neither race would be easy. And while she has managed many political campaigns, Brazile has never been a candidate for office herself.

"Donna likes to run things," said Rick Rosendall, vice president of the local Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance. He has worked with her over the years and thinks she would make a good candidate, but he also noted that the incumbents have strong pro-gay records on the City Council.

As for the question of sexual orientation, "I hold to the Barney Frank rule: People are entitled to privacy but not hypocrisy," said Rosendall. Two of the 13 council members are openly gay white males, so sexual orientation should not be an issue in an election in Washington, D.C., though how a candidate handles the question may be another matter. ▼

## Valentine's Day marked with pro-gay legislation in D.C.

by Bob Roehr

The gay and lesbian community received legislative valentines from two of its strongest congressional supporters on February 14 when they filed separate pro-gay pieces of legislation. Both bills, however, are decided long shots for passage during this session of Congress.

Representative Barney Frank (D-Massachusetts) introduced the Domestic Partners Benefits Obligations Act (HR638). It would make same or opposite sex domestic partners of federal employees "eligible for benefits in a similar manner and to a similar extent, as the spouse of a federal employee, including retirement benefits, life insurance, health insurance and compensation for work injuries."

"It's time for the federal government to follow the lead of many private sector employers and recognize that providing benefits to domestic partners is not just the fair thing to do, it's good business," Frank said.

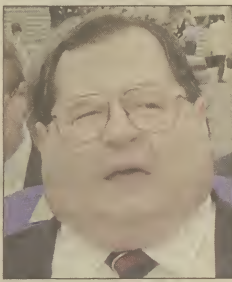
Companies and local governments that have extended the benefits have found that the additional cost is minimal. Frank said this is "a low-cost benefit to help attract more qualified people to the federal government and make it easier to retain them once they start work."

Frank first introduced the measure in October 1997 and

again in 1999, both times eventually gaining 27 Democratic co-sponsors. However, his efforts to enlist the Clinton administration failed and the measure never even got a hearing in committee. That is his goal for this session of Congress.

The same day Representative Jerrold Nadler (D-New York) introduced the Permanent Partners Immigration Act of 2001 (HR690). It would amend basic immigration law to allow gay and lesbian U.S. citizens and lawful

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Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-NY)

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Rally for marriage



A lesbian couple participated in a rally for marriage equality outside San Francisco City Hall on Valentine's Day. Same-sex couples attempted to turn in marriage license applications in the County Clerk's office, but were turned away by mostly sympathetic workers. The demonstration, sponsored by Marriage Equality California, was one of several held in the state to draw attention to the fact that gay and lesbian couples cannot legally marry.

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### SAFETY INFORMATION

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting SUSTIVA. They tend to go away after you have taken the medicine for a few weeks. A small number of patients have had severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. If you have these symptoms, you should contact your doctor immediately to discuss your therapy. There have been a few reports of suicide, but SUSTIVA has not been established as the cause. Mild to moderate rash is a common side effect of SUSTIVA. Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA, because birth defects have been seen in animals given SUSTIVA. SUSTIVA should not be taken by patients who are also taking any of the following: Hismanal® (astemizole), Propulsid® (cisapride), Versed® (midazolam), Halcion® (triazolam), or ergot derivatives as there is the potential for serious and/or life-threatening side effects.\* See Patient Information about SUSTIVA on the following pages.

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References: 1. DPC Study 006, Sustiva/ZDV/3TC versus IDV/ZDV/3TC. 2. Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in HIV-Infected Adults and Adolescents. Panel on Clinical Practices for Treatment of HIV Infection, Dept of Health and Human Services, February 2001.

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**What is SUSTIVA?**

SUSTIVA is a medicine used to help treat HIV, the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). SUSTIVA is a type of HIV drug called a "non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor" (NNRTI).

**How does SUSTIVA work?**

SUSTIVA works by lowering the amount of HIV in the blood (called "viral load"). SUSTIVA must be taken with other anti-HIV medicines. When taken with other anti-HIV medicines, SUSTIVA has been shown to reduce viral load and increase the number of CD4 cells (a type of immune cell in blood). SUSTIVA may not have these effects in every patient.

**Does SUSTIVA cure HIV or AIDS?**

SUSTIVA is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking SUSTIVA may still develop other infections associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important that you remain under the care of your doctor.

**Does SUSTIVA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?**

SUSTIVA has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others. Continue to practice safe sex, and do not use or share dirty needles.

**How should I take SUSTIVA?**

- The dose of SUSTIVA for adults is 600 mg (three 200 mg capsules, taken together) once a day by mouth. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower (see **Can children take SUSTIVA?**).
- Take SUSTIVA at the same time each day. You should take SUSTIVA at bedtime during the first few weeks or if you have side effects, such as dizziness or trouble concentrating (see **What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?**).
- Swallow SUSTIVA with water, juice, milk, or soda. You may take SUSTIVA with or without meals; however, SUSTIVA should not be taken with a high fat meal.
- Do not miss a dose of SUSTIVA. If you forget to take SUSTIVA, take the missed dose right away. If you do miss a dose, do not double the next dose. Carry on with your regular dosing schedule. If you need help in planning the best times to take your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- Take the exact amount of SUSTIVA your doctor prescribes. Never change the dose on your own. Do not stop this medicine unless your doctor tells you to stop.
- When your SUSTIVA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to SUSTIVA and become harder to treat.

**Can children take SUSTIVA?**

Yes, children who are able to swallow capsules can take SUSTIVA. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your child's doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking SUSTIVA. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower than the dose for adults. Capsules containing lower doses of SUSTIVA are available. Your child's doctor will determine the right dose based on your child's weight.

**Who should not take SUSTIVA?**

Do not take SUSTIVA if you are allergic to SUSTIVA or any of its ingredients.

**What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?**

Talk to your doctor right away if you:

- Are pregnant or want to become pregnant
- Are breast-feeding
- Have problems with your liver, or have had Hepatitis
- Start or change any medicine
- Have side effects while taking SUSTIVA
- Have a history of mental illness, substance or alcohol abuse

**What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?**

A small number of patients have had severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. Some patients have had thoughts of suicide and a few patients have actually committed suicide. These problems tend to occur more often in patients with a history of mental illness. You should contact your doctor immediately if you think you are having these symptoms, so your doctor can decide whether you should continue to take SUSTIVA.

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting treatment with SUSTIVA. These feelings may be less noticeable if you take SUSTIVA at bedtime. They also tend to go away after you've taken the medicine for a few weeks. If you have these side effects, such as dizziness, it does not mean that you will also have severe depression, strange

thoughts or angry behavior. Tell your doctor promptly if any of these side effects continue or if they bother you. There is the possibility that these symptoms may be more severe if SUSTIVA is used with alcohol or mood altering (street) drugs. You should avoid driving or operating machinery if you are having these side effects.

One of the most common side effects is rash. These rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. If you develop a rash, call your doctor promptly.

Other common side effects include tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, and diarrhea. However, this is not a complete list of side effects reported with SUSTIVA when taken with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss a more complete list of side effects with you.

Please contact your doctor immediately before stopping SUSTIVA because of side effects. Tell your doctor or other healthcare provider if you notice any side effects while taking SUSTIVA.

**What about birth control, pregnancy, or breast-feeding?**

Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA. Birth defects have been seen in animals treated with SUSTIVA. It is not known whether this could happen in humans. You should use a condom or diaphragm in addition to other methods of birth control while taking SUSTIVA. Inform your doctor immediately if you are pregnant. If you want to become pregnant, talk to your doctor. Do not take SUSTIVA if you are breast-feeding. Talk to your doctor if you are breast-feeding your baby.

**Can I take other medicines with SUSTIVA?**

SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Your doctor may change your medicines or change their doses. For this reason, it is very important to:

- Let all your doctors and pharmacists know that you take SUSTIVA.
- Tell your doctors and pharmacists about all medicines you take. This includes those you buy over-the-counter and herbal or natural remedies.

Bring all your medicines when you see a doctor, or make a list of their names, how much you take, and how often you take them. This will give your doctor a complete picture of the medicines you use. Then he or she can decide the best approach for your situation.

The following medicines may cause serious and life-threatening side effects when taken with SUSTIVA. You should not take any of these medicines while taking SUSTIVA\*\*:

- Hismanal® (astemizole)
- Propulsid® (cisapride)
- Versed® (midazolam)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Ergot medications (for example, Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

The following medicines may need to be changed or have their dose changed when taken with SUSTIVA\*\*:

- Crixivan® (indinavir)
- Fortovase® (saquinavir)
- Biaxin® (clarithromycin)

**How should I keep SUSTIVA?**

SUSTIVA is available as 50 mg, 100 mg, and 200 mg capsules.

Keep SUSTIVA at room temperature (77°F) in the bottle given to you by your pharmacist. The temperature can range from 59°-86°F.

Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children.

**How can I learn more about SUSTIVA?**

Talk to your doctor or other healthcare provider if you have questions about either SUSTIVA or HIV. For additional information you can visit the SUSTIVA website at <http://www.sustiva.com>.

**This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.**

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## Lesbian cop

◀ page 1

tral Station. I worked there until 1983 and then I went to Mission Station. Then I was promoted to sergeant."

Promoted to the rank of temporary lieutenant by former Chief of Police Willis Casey during the Agnos administration, Pursell spent five years in management control, and working at Taraval and Northern stations.

Pursell also pulled stints as a lieutenant at the Police Academy and at Night Investigations — managing non-homicide crimes that occur after regular hours.

"I've done just about everything," she said, grinning.

One of the accomplishments Pursell was instrumental in was making the city's catastrophic illness program work for officers ill with AIDS or breast cancer or other devastating illnesses. Through that program, city workers can transfer vacation or overtime or other hours to the accounts of ill workers to allow them to keep receiving paychecks.

When a beloved officer contracted AIDS, Pursell and another officer set up an early outreach program, and prodded the Health Department off its bureaucratic duff. The outreach program was to make sure that ill officers had basic needs met, such as having transportation to appointments with physicians, ensuring that their families were taken care of, and, often, after they had died, helping with funeral arrangements.

"We took the bull by the horns. They had given so much to our department. We were giving back to them," Pursell said.

That comprehensive compassionate leave protocol is now used as a model for other police departments in California and around the country, and is the management accomplishment of which Pursell is most proud.

While she is aware of the department's shortcomings — and has had a bird's eye view of police policy failures, bad cops, and sometimes tense police-community relations from her years on the beat as well as during her management control stint and as erstwhile assistant to controversial former Deputy Chief Frank Reed — Pursell says that she and other lesbian and gay and women officers are usually respected and appreciated for their work by the community at large.

Quick to acknowledge criticism, Pursell says that what is especially hard is when she gets the emotional dump from someone who has an ax to grind — or has had a bad experience with a police officer and then forms a prejudice.

"That can be frustrating. It's hard not to personalize it because people don't know me, they don't know who I am. I'm extremely open until I feel the need to close down," she said.

But most concerns about police-community relations are always assuaged every June during the San Francisco Pride Parade, she noted.

"The day that makes us all feel good is the day of the parade, when we are walking as a contingent. With very few exceptions it's the one time we are being acknowledged for the jobs we do and who we are. People love us. It's an overwhelming feeling," Pursell told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

The contingent includes lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered police, deputy sheriffs, and other sworn peace and law enforcement officers from San Francisco and elsewhere.

As the managing lieutenant in charge of the Homicide Bureau, Pursell responds to about 90 percent of the cases to which homicide investigators are assigned.

"I want to make sure they have everything they need," she said. "And, I deal with the media to make sure they don't have to be bothered. It's not like I like to be quoted. I'd never been before a camera until I got to Homicide. But I kind of have no choice," she said.

She makes the comment shortly after a news crew from the British Broadcasting Company has arrived at the Hall of Justice seeking her comment on a pending case.

As a police officer and now head of the Homicide Bureau, Pursell is not a stranger to violent deaths, but recalls a "run in the Mission" in her early career as a patrol officer that was especially poignant.

When she responded alone to the call for assistance, Pursell found a woman in an apartment holding a 3-month-old baby that had died.

"The woman was holding the baby trying to bring it back to life. She was just sitting with the baby and when the husband woke up and saw her, he was unable to take the baby from his wife.

"It was the most difficult thing having to get her to give up her baby to me and then holding that baby. It was gray and cold and lifeless and looked like a doll," she said with that special kind of look that breaks the heart.

Pursell pointed out that although she went about her business as an officer on patrol for the rest of the day, she had a kind of delayed reaction about the incident for several days, until her police partner confronted her about the situation.

Another incident Pursell recalled was a pedestrian who was

the victim of a drunk driver, hurled from the force of the impact under a tractor trailer at Mission and 20th streets.

"It was pretty gruesome," she remembered. Essentially, the woman had her belly played completely open and Pursell and her partner tried to keep the woman conscious and reassured — with limited success.

Pursell and her partner went to visit the young woman in the hospital and were surprised to find her conscious and talking and amazingly, it seemed like she was going to pull through.

"But, when we went to visit her on our next day off, we were told that she had died of a massive infection from her injuries," Pursell said. Pursell discovered that she and the woman shared the same surname.

The incident still keeps Pursell "pissed off," and she remained in contact with the victim's family for several years.

Like the incident with the baby, the gruesome accident is something that Pursell will never forget. She also recalled the AIDS-related suicide calls she responded to in the Castro District during the early years of the epidemic.

But homicide is now Pursell's professional calling — and while she acknowledged that she has never had a close friend or family member killed and "doesn't know how she would deal with it," she said she has seen "some pretty awful, horrible deaths," and supports the death penalty when it is returned by a jury.

She supervises a staff of 13 inspectors. There have been six homicides in San Francisco so far this year. There were 66 last year.

What Pursell said about the facts of life when it comes to murder are chilling.

"In most homicides, our victim knew the suspect," Pursell said.

The most obvious likely motives, she said, are "drugs and competition, they go hand in hand."

"Tit for tat, you killed my guy two years ago, gang versus gang, there's often a long window there; someone being disrespectful," she said.

Although domestic violence and assault crimes occur within the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community, they don't usually become homicides, she said.

In fact, the last reported homicide of a gay person in San Francisco was the 1998 Edgard Mora case — gay resident Brian Wilmes was assaulted in front of a local gay bar and later died. Mora was prosecuted, but a murder conviction was not returned by the jury.

Pursell also spoke of the murder of Tommy Wegner, a young

Polk Street area gay man whose surgically dismembered corpse was found in a Myrtle Alley trash bin in March 1994. Wegner was last seen with two men in the Polk Street area before his body was found.

"That's still an active case," she told the *B.A.R.* "we just reassigned it to two investigators. Did you ever run our composite in the paper?" she asked, providing an artists rendering of two people the police want to talk to in the unsolved case.

While her professional life is dedicated to managing the Homicide Bureau, Pursell isn't all work and no play.

When she has free time, the lieutenant likes to spend it with a woman she is, well, spending time with, playing with her two small but perky Highland Terrier dogs — and, of course, reading her favorite true crime paperbacks — when she's not traveling on vacation in Italy. ▼

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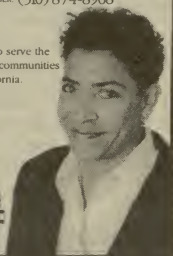
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## Legislation

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permanent residents "to sponsor their permanent partners."

Straight partners can marry and stay in this country as resident aliens, often on the path to American citizenship. But gays and lesbians, denied marriage, also are denied the opportunity of immigration sponsorship under the law. Nadler called the existing policy "gratuitous cruelty."

There is no legal way for foreign-born partners to remain in the country, though many remain illegally after a tourist or student visa expires. Those who do remain here illegally have the threat of being arrested and deported hang-

ing over their head. Employment and even a checking account can be problematic without a Social Security number that can be obtained with permanent residency.

Winnie Stachelberg, political director of the Human Rights Campaign, praised Nadler for "recognizing that immigration law is supposed to be based on protecting families and not tearing them apart based on sexual orientation."

Nadler first proposed the legislation two years ago when he was moved by stories of those forced to separate by immigration law. Canada and 13 other nations recognize gay relationships for purposes of immigration. Last year 59 Democrats signed on as co-sponsors.

## Arrest in Gallaudet slaying

A few blocks north of Capitol Hill, Gallaudet University breathed a sigh of relief with news of the arrest of a suspect in the September murder of Eric Franklin Plunkett, 18, secretary of the Lambda Society, a campus gay and lesbian group. Many had feared that the death was an anti-gay hate crime.

On February 13, Joseph M. Mesa Jr., 20, confessed to killing Plunkett as well as another Gallaudet student, Benjamin Varner, on February 2. Mesa was also a student at the nation's only university for the deaf and hard of hearing and lived in the dorms where the murders occurred. Robbery was the motive behind both killings. ▼



# Latest findings: Unfit virus could be key to surviving advanced AIDS

by Jeff Getty,  
Survive AIDS Writers Pool

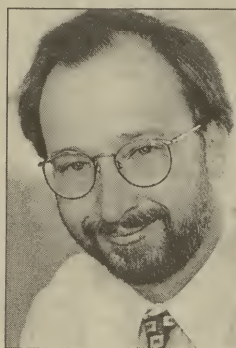
For several years now, AIDS researchers have suspected that HIV virus which has become multi-drug resistant is less likely to cause harm to the immune system. They also wondered if patients might not be better off taking drugs that work only weakly against the virus, rather than stopping treatments altogether when viral resistance has occurred. The first real data to answer these questions is finally available: heavily treated HIV virus is less dangerous or "unfit," and causes less immunological damage than wild-strain (untreated) virus. But the good news is offset by the growing knowledge that many patients may not be able to thrive long-term on toxic anti-HIV drug therapies.

University of California, San Francisco researchers have just released a study that compared two groups of heavily treated AIDS patients. Of 16 initial patients studied, 11 chose to stop taking anti-virals and five continued on

with therapy. Seven additional patients who chose stop medication were also studied at the same time. All patients had multi-drug and protease resistant virus strains. They also had substantial HIV viral loads and measurable T-cells. Researchers, led by Dr. Steven Deeks, compared non-treating to treating groups after 12 weeks and found remarkable differences. Patients who had chosen to stop therapy had large increases in viral load and significant decreases in CD4 T-cell counts (> 80 mean). Patients who remained on therapy showed little change in both viral load or T-cells.

"In terms of T-cells, the differences were dramatic," said Deeks. One of the treating patients developed lymphoma while three of the non-treating patients had significant adverse clinical events. "We were unable to demonstrate clinical significance in such a small group of patients," he said.

The study concluded: "The virologic response to combination antiretroviral drug therapy is often limited in patients who have failed to achieve durable viral suppression with prior regimens." In



UCSF's Dr. Steven Deeks

other words, heavily treated HIV has lower virological response and could be less deadly. Deeks also mentioned that for years, researchers have observed that patients who continued to treat even with significant viral loads seemed to do better clinically. Along with the findings comes a new term, "viral fitness" which likely will become an important new part of the HIV lexicon as advanced AIDS patients and their doctors make major life-and-death treatment decisions.

Should one change one's treatments to make the virus less fit? Deeks's study focused mostly on protease resistant mutants. But he does believe that nucleosides such as 3TC and AZT also cause significant viral non-fitness or weakening. "All of our patients had protease inhibitors, but I suspect that nucleoside, to a lesser degree, will select for a virus that is unfit," he said. Deeks's team was able to measure different viral functions such as the virus' ability to reproduce outside the body. The results

demonstrated that pre-treated HIV did not reproduce and spread as did currently non-treated virus. "Although recombinant virus assays cannot measure all aspects of viral fitness, these in vitro measurements or replication capacity support our in vivo observations that drug sensitive virus has a greater ability to replicate than resistant virus in the absence of therapy," the study reported.

These new findings do not bode well for the latest trend toward STI or strategic treatment interruption. Many activists have known that some scientists - Deeks included - have long been skeptical of treatment interruptions, and now have good cause. Still, some studies suggest that one could benefit from treatment interruptions. But Deeks is very cautious and believes that patients should think twice before interrupting drug therapy if their T-cells are below 500.

"We were focusing on late-stage patients who will need therapy. If you had 500 T-cells, you might be able to stop drugs, if you had 100, I would not advise it. Also, nadir [lowest ever measured] is important. With a CD4 nadir below 200 in the past, there is a great risk if you discontinued therapy," Deeks said.

This latest report were published in the February 15 *New England Journal of Medicine* and likely will set the stage for further research into viral fitness. Deeks hopes that the news will be good for late-stage patients. He theorized that patients may be kept alive using worn-out drugs until such time that newer and better drugs come along. And to AIDS patients the news does bring some hope, but many wonder how long

they will be able to maintain drug therapy as long-term toxic side effects become life-threatening. As the drugs cause the virus to be unfit, the side effects cause the patients to be unfit as well.

## PWAs polled in Palm Springs

Long-term side effects are now the number one concern for people living with HIV and AIDS. At a February 12 AIDS forum held in Palm Springs, California, a large group of HIV and AIDS patients were polled about which problems affected their lives the most. About 190 out of over 200 patients said that long-term side effects were their main worry and problem in living with the disease. This compared to only six patients who thought HIV drug resistance was a major concern and only two patients who thought that cost of living was a big problem. And the effects are apparent even to the untrained. Speakers at the forum remarked that most of the audience members had visible signs of lipodystrophy and skin discoloration. Whether or not these symptoms are caused by the drugs, the disease, or both, is still a matter of debate. But clearly, living with HIV and maintaining unfit virus for some will better than not treating at all, while staying alive and taking the drugs will become impossible for others.

Some AIDS patients think that researchers have no sense of collateral damage: Be good and always take your drugs, seems to be the message. What is needed now is research into ways to help patients mitigate drug side effects so they may treat on through these dark days of weak and toxic anti-HIV drugs. ▼

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## Whipple

◀ page 5

He noted that generally, when more than one party sues for wrongful death, the lawsuits are combined at the request of the defendant.

Whipple-Kelly told the B.A.R. that her focus right now is to grieve the loss of her daughter. She plans a memorial service on Long Island, New York on Sunday, February 25. That service will be attended by Smith and by many of Whipple's friends and relatives from the East Coast.

Whipple-Kelly said she wants to do everything she can to continue to support Smith.

"I believe Sharon and Diane's

relationship was very special and they were very loving," she said. "Diane was in the type of environment where she was able to excel and grow a lot and Sharon was a big part of that. Diane wasn't as angry anymore. She was angry a lot of the time and very driven. She seemed to be more at peace with herself and I think a big part of that was Sharon. They complemented each other very well."

Whipple-Kelly told the B.A.R. that although she's always known that her daughter was gay, it was something Whipple wasn't open about until a few years ago.

"Sharon and Diane were both very private people," she said. "They didn't do a whole lot of public displays of affection. They were both professionals. I don't

want to say they were in the closet or anything. They didn't generally publish that they were a gay couple."

Whipple-Kelly said she hopes to raise money in support of her daughter's foundation. She said the decision over what to do with the funds will be made jointly by her, her brother, and Smith. She hopes to use the money to help schools and other projects that were important to Whipple. She would also like to see the foundation work toward changing dog laws to prevent a similar tragedy. ▼

Donations can be sent to: Diane Alexis Whipple Foundation, 2443 Fillmore Street, P.O. Box 432, San Francisco, CA 94115.

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## OBITUARIES

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Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization – and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

## John Wolcott Atteridge

John Wolcott Atteridge died Sunday, February 4, 2001 at Davies Medical Center in San Francisco after a 12-year struggle with AIDS. He was born on September 28, 1954 in New Jersey, and graduated from Memorial High School in Houston, Texas, and from Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts. His unique aptitude for mathematics at a young age led him to a profession as a principal and actuary with William M. Mercer Inc. in Seattle and San Francisco before retiring in 1994.

Throughout his adult life he traveled around the world. He was an accomplished bridge player winning many tournaments throughout the U.S. John was also a former member of the SF Gay Men's Chorus and served as a volunteer from the very beginning of the AIDS crisis with many organizations, including Shanti Project, Project Open Hand, and most recently with AIDS Benefits Counselors. John was actively involved in the life of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav in San Francisco.

John is survived by his parents, Louise and Paul Atteridge, of Silver Creek, Colorado; sisters Ellen Watkins of

Sokane, Washington; Sue Izard and Barbara Robin of The Woodlands, Texas; brothers Ted of Arvada, Colorado and Jamie of Durango, Colorado; former partners Chuck Russell and Brian Duckworth of San Francisco, California, and 11 nieces and nephews including his namesake, John A. Atteridge.

In lieu of gifts, donations are requested to Project Open Hand or to AIDS Benefits Counselors. Additional information is available from Chuck Russell, 863-2212.

Duy Ngo  
1962-2000

Duy (pronounced Huey) Ngo left us suddenly in early December.

A beautiful man with many diverse talents and filled with laughter, he will be greatly missed.

Those who are interested in a celebration of Duy's life should call Gordon Salter at (415) 643-9292 to learn more information.

## Donald C. Boysen, Jr.



Donald C. Boysen, Jr. died suddenly and unexpectedly in his home on February 2, 2001 at the age of 66. For those of us who knew Don, he was a dedicated friend with a big heart, generosity and energy that never quit. Born in Salinas and after a brief tour with the Army in Germany, Don moved to San Francisco where he lived for over 40 years. Don was a very successful real estate investor, allowing him to spend the last 26 years of his life in retirement, traveling all over the world and doing the things he enjoyed best. As an automobile enthusiast, Don was a long-time member of the Freewheelers, the Bentley Drivers' Club, the Mercedes Benz Club of America, and the rolls-Royce Owners' Club.

Don was a kind-hearted man who loved being with and interacting with people, and was always willing to lend a helping hand to his friends. Don is survived by his mother, Charlotte, and many friends. We will always be in your debt for your kindness, generosity, love and friendship. Rest in peace dearest Don.

A memorial service will be held on March 10, 11 a.m., at The Cultural Integration Fellowship, 2650 Fulton St., San Francisco. Email: CastroVict@aol.com

David H. McCrary  
1947-2001

Longtime Castro resident David McCrary died peacefully on February 12 after a long illness. He is survived by his partner, Tom Root; his best friends Bill Trumbo and Edward Mordak; and his pals Niji the golden retriever and Skyler the cat.

Born February 8, 1947 in Clovis, New Mexico, David graduated from Eastern New Mexico University.

On a visit to friends Marcia and Robert in Marin, David found his true home. For much of the 1970s, David was a waiter at Church Street Station and an enthusiastic participant in that decade's outrageous fun — dancing at the Trocadero Transfer, boogieing at the Balcony, and bicycling everywhere. In the '80s, he worked at FotoMat on Castro Street, where he and Niji were a familiar sight.

If even half of his stories were true, David thoroughly enjoyed being gay in San Francisco. In passing, he joins his first partner Lawrence; friends Don, Terry, Michael, Ray, Frank and Ken; and his beloved Donny Cat. Heartfelt thanks to Dr. Donald Abrams, the staff at Ward 86, and Laguna Honda Hospice for their exceptional care.

Plans for a memorial are pending; call (650) 432-3134 for information. Donations to Laguna Honda Hospice in David's name would be appreciated.



## Donald N. Alexander

Died 2-12-01 after a lengthy illness. He was 68 years old. The cause of death was due to Renal Failure and Pulmonary Vasculitis. Don was last employed as a Private Secretary at Greyhound Lines in San Francisco. He is survived by his sister, Lois Franklin of Bon Carbo, CO; niece Valerie, nephews Craig, Henry Jr., Eric and their families all of Portland, OR. Don will be

remembered with love by his friends in London, especially Ted and Cliff; his very long time friends Jim and Ralph in St. Louis and his many dear friends in San Francisco — too many to even begin to list. He also leaves behind his loving partner and companion of 28 years, Raymond Biondi. Don was a very warm and friendly man who charmed everyone that he met. Our world will be a little less bright without him. Very special thanks must be given to his Doctor, G. Kardos and his wonderful staff. The Dialysis Center at Davies Hospital has some of the most caring and helpful people imaginable and they brought Don a lot of much needed support and care. Thank you, all. At Donald's request, there will be no service; he will be cremated by the Neptune Society and his ashes will be placed at the San Francisco Columbarium. If you would like to remember Don, you can make a contribution in his name to the National Kidney Foundation, 553 Pilgrim Drive, Suite C, Foster City, CA 94404 or a charity of your choice. May he rest in peace.



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## Hate crimes

◀ page 1

The inconsistencies are apparent. The National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs, for instance, reported 29 murders motivated by sexual orientation or gender identity for 1999 where the feds identified just three. California's hate crimes report for 1999, released by the California Department of Justice, expressed a 12.1 percent rise in all hate-based incidents, up to 1,962, or a full 25 percent of what the FBI reported nationally. Sexual orientation accounted for 436 attacks in the California report, and with the hate-based murder of gay couple Gary Matson and Winfield Mowder outside of Redding, the state saw at least two homophobic killings in that year.

The deficient federal numbers indicate a simple unwillingness or lack of knowledge when it comes to reporting sexuality-based crimes, according to Toledo.

"In some cases, authorities are simply not trained adequately to gather and report the statistics. In other instances, they lack the will power or motivation. What these statistics tell us is that reporting of hate crimes must become mandatory in every state and every jurisdiction in the United States."

Gender activist Riki Wilchins, executive director of GenderPAC, says any additions to the hate crimes law must include real or perceived gender in addition to sexual orientation. "We would like to see hate crimes language expanded to include gender," said Wilchins, noting that many hate crimes that may otherwise be classified as homophobic are in fact based on the victim's gender expression.

But queer rights activist Bill Dobbs said that pushing for more legislation is a misguided way to deal with the problem.

"NGLTF and NCAVP are once again engaging in 'police blotter' advocacy. Why do these groups

show only part of the picture? When such crimes are reported, do the police investigate? Is anyone arrested? Is anyone convicted? And, most important, is there justice?" said Dobbs. "Toledo's focus on raw numbers exploits fear of crime and creates the false impression that nothing is being done about these terrible incidents. Existing laws against assault and killing provide severe penalties. For example, one of Brandon Teena's convicted killers is on death row. NGLTF and HRC and NCAVP and GLAAD have done much to clamor for more law and order — hate crime laws — and almost nothing to get rid of the death penalty, an ongoing human rights violation. Hate crime legislation is not only unnecessary but the push for such laws is blinding us to real justice." ▼

The full text of the FBI report can be downloaded at [www.fbi.gov/ucr/99hate.pdf](http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/99hate.pdf)

## Chat Cafe

◀ page 1

The first job fair was thrown together within one week and surprised everyone by attracting dozens. The second one drew even more people, and Crawford has heard from a few recruiters who have hired people they met at the cafe. The third job fair will take place tomorrow (Friday, February 23), from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Job seekers may drop in at any time during those hours and will be given a name tag noting their desired position.

"A coffee shop is a much more laid back and comfortable way to talk to people," said Crawford, who added that participating companies and available positions will be listed on the cafe's Web site for those who need employment.

"This way, recruiters can eye the crowd and meet the people who can fill positions they need, and job seekers can approach the companies that have the positions they're looking for. It's not like typical job fairs, which are basically résumé fairs where neither side learns about each other."

The Chat Cafe has always operated with the mission "not to attract just the lone wolves... where customers are staring into screens and all you hear is the tippy-tap of the keyboard," according to Crawford. The "pop and pop shop" appeals to Internet junkies and non-users alike, with the candy-colored CPUs serving as centerpieces for apartment hunting and worldwide communication, and the nearby tables accommodating local gossip.

Chat plans to hold technology job fairs for as long as they are successful.

"We're here to fill needs within the neighborhood," said Crawford. "And let's face it, everyone is happy when everyone is working."

Not everyone, of course, supports the Chat owners' efforts to find jobs for dot-commers in the Castro, particularly those who have experienced the negative effects of massive growth without responsible planning.

"Lots of people in the Castro have been displaced by the dot-com explosion, so if they really want to help the neighborhood they'd be finding ways to get dot-coms to contribute to affordable housing, or they'd help set up a fund for people who are being evicted due to dot-coms," said local activist Tommi Avicoli Mecca. "It's that kind of social behavior we have not seen from the dot-com industry. A job fair; however, I'm not impressed." ▼

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# Cruel iron-y

by Jim Provenzano

For every casual trip to the gym we regular folk make, somewhere, a hard-core bodybuilder is lifting 100 pounds for every one of ours.

Every once in a rare while, these kings of creatine, these vicars of vascularity, these masters of muscle, unleash their efforts for public admiration and strip down, oil up, and, flex down at bodybuilding competitions.

The next and nearest one, the San Francisco Grand Prix, takes place February 24 at Nob Hill's Masonic Center, 111 California Street.

Promoter Joel Parker is very excited about this event, and considers the caliber of competitors to be worth watching. He compares high-grade bodybuilders to opera singers, while we mere casual gym-goers are akin to recreational karaoke singers.

With mass, definition, and symmetry being the major judging criteria, some of the most massive, defined, and symmetrical athletes can be viewed in their posing routines at the first Grand Prix.

"Bodybuilders are very sophisticated in what you can and cannot do," said Parker. "They go through the most rigorous standards, pushing the envelope with supplements, workouts and per-

formance enhancers."

Since the days of the great Steve Reeves, "the aesthetic has changed what society considers beautiful," said Parker. But he considers it "more than a beauty contest" — a showcase of intensity, rivaling the Arnold Classic and Mr. Olympia competitions.

Parker doesn't, however, believe that young kids should engage in bodybuilding until they're in their late teens. Several publications, including the *New York Times*, have reported on a rise in bigorexia, a disorder among young men and women who can't see their muscle growth, and always consider themselves not big enough.

"It bothers me to see kids bodybuilding," he said. "They suffer from a great deal of pressure to look great."

And from where might that pressure have risen?

## Per nugget

Bodybuilding, taken to its highest level, involves as much science as nutrition and dedication. Although historically the cliché of the steroid-abusing jock whose "nuggets" shrink at the expense of huge deltoids has diminished, the unique combination of sport and art remains suspect to outsiders in the athletic realm. To a football or basketball player, bodybuilding is a supplement to their "real thing," playing with balls.



Livin' large: Chris Cormier, one of many buff bodybuilders at this weekend's Grand Prix

The bodybuilding community, and its corporate sponsors — mostly Weider-related publications, as well as promoters of Weider gyms, clothing and other products — have long lobbied to include physique as part of the Olympics. Gay Games has always included physique as one of its more popular events worth charging admission to view.

Parker, whose efforts to promote the San Francisco Grand Prix have met with some derision from local mainstream media, considers the gay community a more avid target market.

While no contenders at the event are openly gay, the appeal of massively flexing muscles is popular with many a gay fan of the Greek ideal taken to science fiction extremes.

Despite Bob Paris being the only gay bodybuilder to have come out, and made a successful career of discussing the sport (*Gorilla Suit*), and the sport's surprisingly not-too-friendly attitude toward openly gay bodybuilders, the sport/art continues to include many gay men as devotees, particularly among those for whom pecs supersede personality as a perk.

To witness this demanding and amazing form of human sculpture, preliminary judging and compulsory rounds begin at 2 p.m., February 24, at Nob Hill's Masonic Center, 111 California Street. Tickets are \$25. The big show, finals, starts at 8 p.m. (\$45-65). For more info, call (415) 392-4400, (607) 272-5678, or consult the muscular ad located elsewhere in this publication.

## Saturday Night's alright for fighting

Elton John is a gay pop star, perhaps the gay pop star. At least he became one, once he figured out he was gay. By that time, everyone else on the planet had more than a few clues.

In 1979, Elton bought the Watford Hornets, a British rugby team, and hired a little known young manager from Lincoln who had just won them promotion to the third division.

John made the sum of £50,000 available to his manager to spend

on recruiting the finest players. The Hornets destroyed Division Four, winning the title with six matches to spare. Elton also did the unthinkable and got rid of the racing greyhound dogs that also competed in the rugby club's stadium for decades.

Although making history by being the only openly gay man — let alone openly gay pop star — to ever own a sports team, John often suffered the ribbing of fans, who made homophobic chants when he attended games. A successful British play, *Elton John's Glasses*, dramatizes one fan's obsession with the team.

More important than the financial contribution that John made, was his love of the game and the club and his contagious enthusiasm for Watford that helped him and the club achieve so much in such a short period of time.

After hearing about the Hornets' promotion to the First Division, John is said to have said, "I never want to be without Watford."

However, at the end of the 1980s, by recruiting Dave Bassett as the manager of the club, critics claim he nearly destroyed the team.

A few years later, John sold the club to outside investors.

## The bitch is back

Recently, after a wig job, throat surgery, a string of mediocre albums, and an AIDS foundation that rakes in dough at an annual Academy Awards party but doesn't dole it out as much, John claimed financial ruin, having gone through over \$10 million per year, and sold the majority of his lavish costumes at auction.

By the time you read this, Sir Elton will have sold something else — his integrity and his soul — having performed February 21 with admitted felon Marshall Mathers, aka Eminem, at the Grammy Awards. Eminem's infamous lyrics advocate the violent assault of homosexuals, pregnant women, and his mother.

"I know I'm going to get a lot of flak from various people who are going to picket the show. If I thought for one minute that he



I'd like to drop my trousers to the Queen

was [hateful], I wouldn't do it," John told the *Los Angeles Times*.

Despite behaving like a stupid-ass drunk, John is said to be clean and sober for years.

Perhaps all that rugby arena ribbing John received has inured him from realizing just what life outside his grand world is like. It's one thing to encourage "queen" jokes while on *The Tonight Show*, accompanied by rim shots. It's another thing to get it on a playground or in the locker room, accompanied by fists.

By the time you read this, John and Mathers will have performed the duet, "Stan." Had I any Elton John records handy, and not in my parents' attic being gnawed by squirrels, they would have been tossed into the garbage.

Goodbye, yellow brick road.

## Your song

The Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network's 1999 national school climate survey found that 90 percent of the LGBT students who were surveyed reported "sometimes" or "regularly" hearing anti-gay comments at school. Thirty-six percent reported hearing these comments from teachers or other school personnel.

For information on getting a copy of "Do Words Hurt? A Guide for Discussing Eminem and the Grammys with Students," a guide for middle school and high school educators to address the use of anti-gay epithets in schools by exploring the impact of violence and hate lyrics in popular music, visit [www.glsen.org](http://www.glsen.org).

## Philadelphia freedom

Harvey's on Polk Street may be closed, but the Castro Harvey's is still hopping, and will be quite a fun event March 1.

It's the official pre-registration start for Gay Games 2002. Join Team San Francisco at Harvey's, 500 Castro Street, for the official kick-off. Sign-up starts at 6:30 p.m., with an auction of sports and Gay Games items. Team SF pins and T-shirts will be available, as well as a sneak peek at the Team SF uniforms.

Dr. Kathleen McGuire, the artistic director of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, will be the emcee for the evening, and conduct songs sung by dozens of members of the Gay Men's Chorus. In addition to being the biggest quadrennial sports event on the planet, Gay Games will also include a huge cultural festival. ▼

For more info, visit <http://www.teamsf.org> or call (415) 522-2386. For more info on the Watford Football Club, visit <http://www.watfordfc.com>. For more athletic irreverence, including an archived interview with Bob Paris, visit <http://sportscomplex.org>.

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The following person(s) are doing business as: P & K Painting, 1300 Page Street #3, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by co partners signed Michael A. Truhill-Pierce and James M. Knight. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/15/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/16/01. FEB. 1, 8, 15, 22, 2001

### STATEMENT FILE NO.246133

The following person(s) are doing business as: Presidio World Campus/ Presidio World Institute, Building #36, San Francisco, Ca. 94129. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Richard M. Gray, Ph.D., Board Secretary. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 03/15/93. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/19/01. FEB. 1, 8, 15, 22, 2001

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The following person(s) are doing business as: Rose Enterprises, Speed Master, 4992 Mission Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by husband and wife signed Harry C. Suggang and Benelita Rose. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/25/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/25/01. FEB. 1, 8, 15, 22, 2001

### STATEMENT FILE NO.246114

The following person(s) are doing business as: Lion King Entertainment, 1791 Revere Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by an individual signed Roland Ochoa. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/18/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/18/01. FEB. 1, 8, 15, 22, 2001

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 317691

In the Matter of the Application of Darrell Gerard Ambuhl for Change of Name. The application of Darrell Gerard Ambuhl for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Darrell Gerard Ambuhl has filed an application proposing that his name be changed to Darrell Scarlett. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 29th day of March, 2001, at 9 o'clock AM., of said day to show cause why the application for change of same should not be granted. FEB. 1, 8, 15, 22, 2001

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 316961

In the Matter of the Application of Victoria Beatrice Black for Change of Name.

The application of Victoria Beatrice Black for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Victoria Beatrice Black has filed an application proposing that her name be changed to Eowyn. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 26th day of February, 2001, at 9 o'clock AM., of said day to show cause why the application for change of same should not be granted. FEB. 1, 8, 15, 22, 2001

### STATEMENT FILE NO.246531

The following person(s) are doing business as: Pizza Organica & Brewing Company, 823 Clement Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Taylor Azevedo Mala, Rogerio Marina Silva and Gina Maria Gochez. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/20/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/05/01. FEB. 8, 15, 22, MAR 1, 2001

### STATEMENT FILE NO.246499

The following person(s) are doing business as: Easy Fix, 584 Castro Street #302, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Bevin Jennings Shamel. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 02/05/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/05/01. FEB. 8, 15, 22, MAR 1, 2001

### STATEMENT FILE NO.245807

The following person(s) are doing business as: California Rug Cleaners, 2507 Folsom Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed David M. Jordan. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 10/15/89. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/04/01. FEB. 8, 15, 22, MAR 1, 2001

### STATEMENT FILE NO.246422

The following person(s) are doing business as: Quick-Come Transportation, 38 Pope Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed Michael K. Tam. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 01/31/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/31/01. FEB. 8, 15, 22, MAR 1, 2001

### STATEMENT FILE NO.246470

The following person(s) are doing business as: Milkcrates Entertainment, Eighty-Eight Milkcrates Entertainment, 185 Hale Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94134. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Franco Cruz Torres, Brandon Cruz, and Lisette Cruz. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/02/01. FEB. 8, 15, 22, MAR 1, 2001

### STATEMENT FILE NO.246571

The following person(s) are doing business as: Ascendant, 680 Lombard Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94133. This business is conducted by an individual signed Gregory B. Goodwin. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 6, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/06/01. FEB. 15, 22, MAR 1, 8, 2001

### STATEMENT FILE NO.246575

The following person(s) are doing business as: Joseph Nesci Technical Communications, 415 Noe Street #2, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Joseph F. Nesci. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 6, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/06/01. FEB. 15, 22, MAR 1, 8, 2001

### STATEMENT FILE NO.246581

The following person(s) are doing business as: Deng's Trucking, 34 Varennes Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94133. This business is conducted by an individual signed Xue F. Deng. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 7, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/07/01. FEB. 15, 22, MAR 1, 8, 2001

### STATEMENT FILE NO.246707

The following person(s) are doing business as: Zhu's Gardening, 165 Girard Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94134. This business is conducted by an individual signed Hua Wan Zhu. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 13, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/13/01. FEB. 22, MAR 1, 8, 15, 2001

### STATEMENT FILE NO.246504

The following person(s) are doing business as: Clever Cat Kids, 801 Kansas Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by an individual signed Christin Schmidt. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/05/01. FEB. 15, 22, MAR 1, 8, 2001

### STATEMENT FILE NO.246559

The following person(s) are doing business as: Y.K. Cheung Photography, 2217 San Jose Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed Yiu Keung Cheung. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 6, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/06/01. FEB. 15, 22, MAR 1, 8, 2001

### STATEMENT FILE NO.245927

The following person(s) are doing business as: OutJock, 461 Castro Street, Suite #D, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Michael Castillo. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, January 01, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/10/01. FEB. 15, 22, MAR 1, 8, 2001

### STATEMENT FILE NO.246624

The following person(s) are doing business as: Clair SF, 1415 Folsom Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Andrea Rossing Johnson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 08, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/08/01. FEB. 15, 22, MAR 1, 8, 2001

### STATEMENT FILE NO.246117

The following person(s) are doing business as: The Eighth Dimension, 2134 15th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Kirk Metzger. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, January 18, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/18/01. FEB. 15, 22, MAR 1, 8, 2001

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Application is: Brickhouse Cafe, LLC. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at: 185 Berry Street, suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 426 Brannan Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. Type of license Applied for: 41-ON SALE BEER AND WINE EATING PLACE FEB. 15, 22, MAR 1, 2001

### STATEMENT FILE NO.246627

The following person(s) are doing business as: TasteWine, 155 Eureka Street #2, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Jennifer Elias and Ray Johnson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 08, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/08/01. FEB. 22, MAR 1, 8, 15, 2001

## LEGAL NOTICES

### STATEMENT FILE NO.246683

The following person(s) are doing business as: Chef Neil, 455 Utah Street #1, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Neil Dean Geller. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 04, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/12/01. FEB. 22, MAR 1, 8, 15, 2001

### STATEMENT FILE NO.246694

The following person(s) are doing business as: Look Of Love, Hair Nail Salon, 3903-18th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Giap, Pham- H. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 12, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/12/01. FEB. 22, MAR 1, 8, 15, 2001

### STATEMENT FILE NO.246706

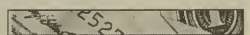
The following person(s) are doing business as: Let's Hardwood Floor Refinishing, 39 Edinburgh Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed 21 Ran Lei. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 13, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/13/01. FEB. 22, MAR 1, 8, 15, 2001

### STATEMENT FILE NO.246839

The following person(s) are doing business as: Geneva Pub, 1196 Geneva Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed Kili S. Kirkpatrick. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/20/01. FEB. 22, MAR 1, 8, 15, 2001

### STATEMENT FILE NO.246605

The following person(s) are doing business as: Tre Media Group, 2037 Irving Street #214, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by an individual signed Hao H. Duong. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, February 7, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/07/01. FEB. 15, 22, MAR 1, 8, 2001



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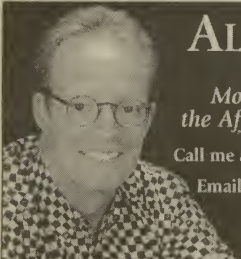


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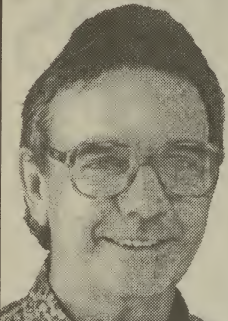
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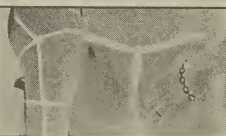
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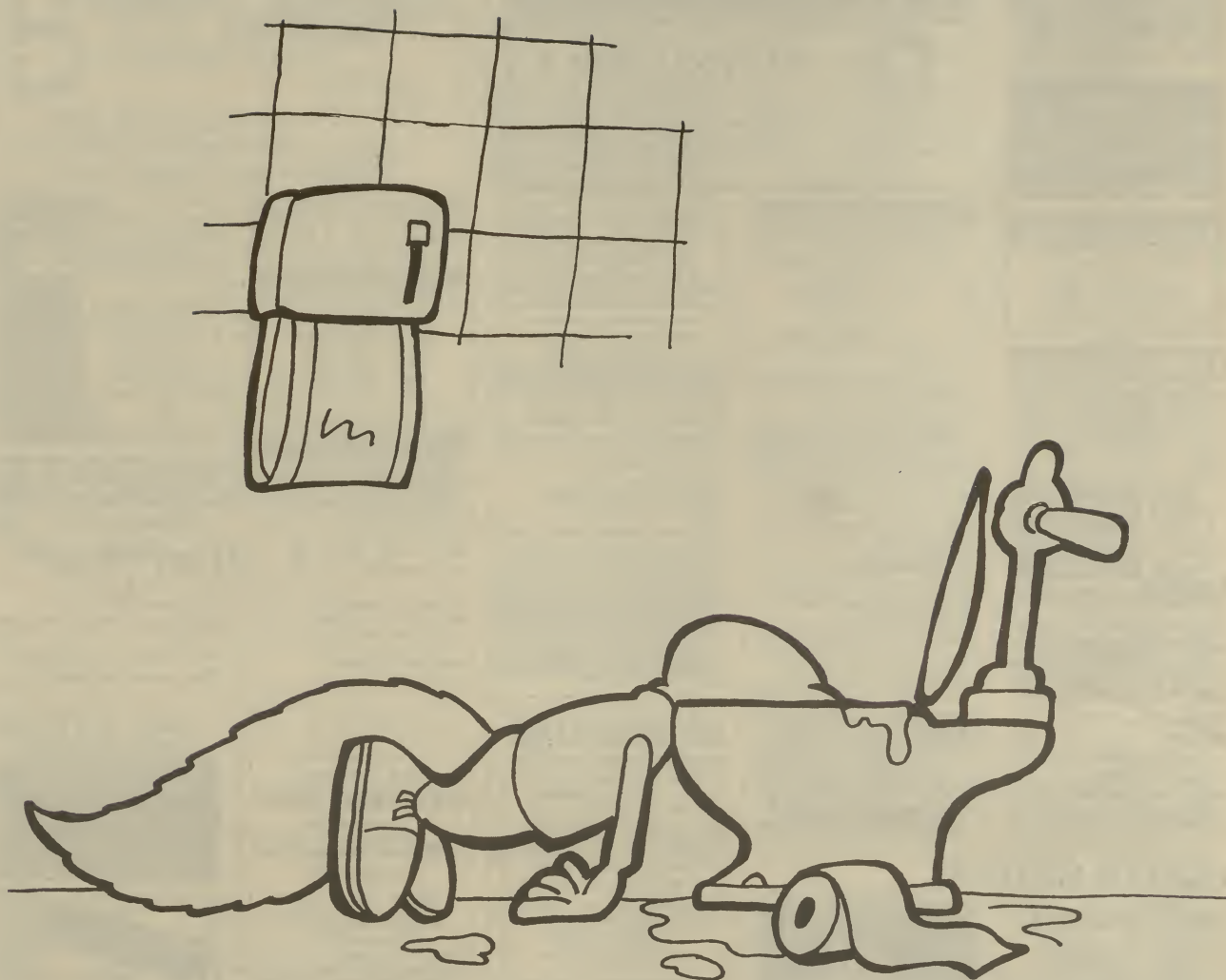
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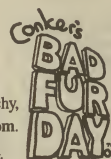


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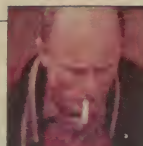


**Life and legacy of the original clone**  
Sex-film superstar Al Parker is revealed  
in a new biography, reviewed by Karr.  
page 35

**Monochrome landscape**  
Black characters are still  
rare in prime-time TV.  
page 28



**Paint for paint's sake**  
Ed Harris plays drip  
master Jackson Pollock.  
page 36



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 31 • No. 8 • 22 February 2001

## Judy times Judy

Actress Davis plays legend  
Garland for ABC

by Richard Dodds

**N**eil Meron is a big-time Hollywood producer who can still get mushy when the subject is Judy Garland. "I worship at the shrine of Judyism," Meron said recently. "Even before I acknowledged to myself that I'm gay, I was just a huge fan."

With both fear and excitement, Meron and partner Craig Zadan took on the daunting task of making a television movie of Garland's melodramatic life. The results, *Life with Judy Garland: Me and My Shadows*, will air Feb. 24 and 25 on ABC.

Meron and Zadan's gay-friendly producing credits range from *Gypsy* starring Bette Midler to *Serving in Silence: The Margarette Cammermeyer Story* with Glenn Close, and Meron sees *Life with Judy Garland* as the pinnacle of their work.

"This was the project with the most risks,"

Meron said by phone from Los Angeles, "especially our being gay and knowing how Garland is revered in the gay community. We wanted to be true to the story and yet still let Judy Garland have dignity. I think we pulled that off, and I'm so proud I can't stand it."

Officially based on daughter Lorna Luft's book *Me and My Shadows*, the four-hour TV movie actually casts its net far wider than just describing the impossible situation of being one of Garland's children. The biopic ranges from 2-year-old Frances Gumm shouting out "Jingle Bells" from a stage in Grand Rapids to Garland's death in London 45 years later.

page 31 ▶



The poster for the 1903 New York stage production of *The Wizard of Oz*

## The Wizard before Judy

by Tavo Amador

**I**n *Oz Before the Rainbow* (Johns Hopkins, \$34.95), Mark Evan Swartz documents the colorful history of L. Frank Baum's *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* leading up to the memorable 1939 MGM film that made Judy Garland a star and provided America with cultural reference points transcending normal generational differences. This history of the children's book, early stage and screen versions of the story is fascinating, thoroughly researched, and lavishly illustrated.

The popularity of the 1900 book was enormous, spawning many sequels, none as well-regarded as the original, although they, too, found a large audience. Baum grew tired of writing about Dorothy and Oz, but his public insisted that he continue doing so. Swartz shows how different eras staged or

filmed Baum's story. For example, in the novel, Dorothy's age is never given, although it appears she is a little girl of six or seven. But many stage productions cast her as a voluptuous if innocent young woman. (Garland herself was a buxom 16 when she played Dorothy, and her breasts were strapped down so that she appeared even younger.) In one stage production, Toto the dog became a cow, played by an actor.

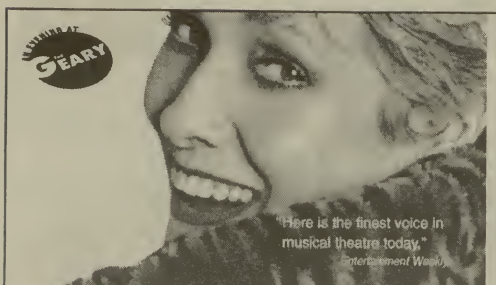
These stage versions, the first of which premiered in Chicago in 1902, were usually extravagant, featuring lavish costumes and sets, large casts, and musical numbers, which generally did not relate to the plot. The musicals continued to be produced until 1918, playing most major American cities. Ironically, none of them produced any memorable songs, although Hollywood gossip columnist Louella Parsons chided MGM while the Garland version was being

page 30 ▶

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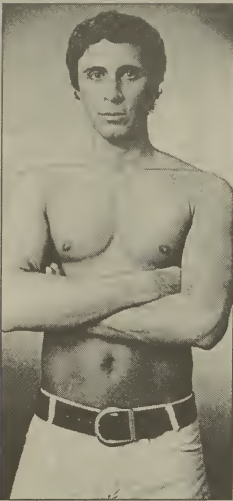
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by Roberto Friedman and Roddy Beautiful

As part of its third repertory program of the season, San Francisco Ballet is currently performing *Tuning Game*, danced to gay composer John Corigliano's Concerto for Oboe and Orchestra. In honor of the occasion, Out There brings you this rare, out-of-print photo of the youthful Corigliano posing bare-chested for the pages of *After Dark* magazine. It's from ancient times: February 1976.

John Corigliano in *After Dark*

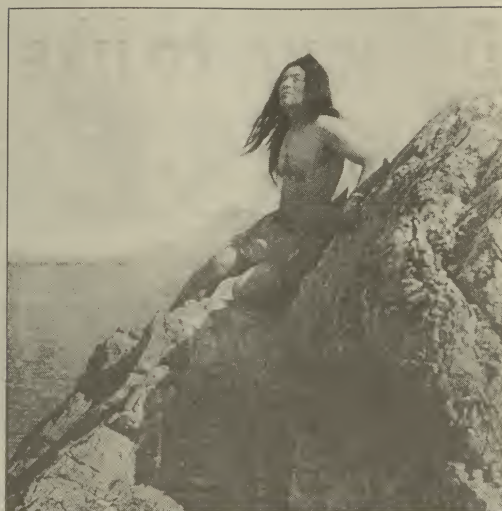
Where else are you going to see "come fuck me" beefcake shots of award-winning classical composers? *After Dark* also ran a photo of "the darkly handsome composer" down on the floor in a fetching pose, "reading a score" wearing football jersey and tight, tight pants. You won't see that in *Modern Composers* magazine, but Out There has it in filed away in our High Culture dossier.

While we're on the subject of conspicuous posing in sexy tableau, we found the following passage in *Looking Good, Male Body Image in Modern America* by UC History prof Lynne Luciano (Hill & Wang): "Muscles may be symbolic of masculinity, but bodybuilding, with its self-conscious posing and self-display, is oddly reminiscent of stereotypically female activities."

"Contestants in bodybuilding competitions have off their body hair and pose covered in makeup to enhance their physical charms; their preening, measuring and dieting is more typical of female, not male, behavior."

To which we say, all that pimping and preening seems typical of narcissistic human behavior, period.

Of course, you can see bodies beautiful acting out for the camera all over. In Jonas Mekas' collection of photography, *Just Like a Shadow* (Steidl/Scalo), portraits of famous people are not conventional in any sense. Candid, seemingly unedited, they are presented as developed film, rather than as finished photographs. Look, there are immortal artists John Lennon and Yoko Ono, playfully presenting their bare buns to Mekas' camera in New York, 1970. There's



On the Shores of Clear Lake, 1924, photographed by Edward S. Curtis, part of SFMOMA's *Native to the Land: Photography and the North American Indian, 1870-1930*

red-baiting film director Elia Kazan, reading a story aloud to the young and angelic John Kennedy Junior, in Montauk, 1972. And there's wacky Warhol actor Taylor Mead, waxing mysterious in an expedition to the Marquis de Sade's castle in Lacoste, 1966 — looking far more the part than Quills' pill Geoffrey Rush.

## Imaginary Indians

Photographers Andrea Robbins and Max Becher document another side of human behavior in their studies of a bizarre cult of Native American fan clubs that thrive during annual gatherings in contemporary Germany. *German Indians*, now on display at Yerba Buena Center as part of the *Try This On!* group of exhibitions (through May 6), showcases photos of the Karl May Festival, a fete in honor of the novelist who wrote about an American West in which Natives were heroes and whites were corrupt invaders. Becher and Robbins also show formal portraits of children dressed as Indians at the Cologne Carnival.

As a friend of ours who lives in Nuremberg points out, most of these people have never been in the New World, much less frolicked on a reservation. But the romantic idealization of exotic culture can only partly explain the spectacle of Mittel-Europeans decked out in chief's headdresses and moccasins. At YBC for the Arts, 701 Mission St.

Right across 3rd Street at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, *Native to the Land: Photography and the North American Indian, 1870-1930* shows selections of rare works by Edward S. Curtis, Adam Clark Vroman and other photographers, which show how authentic American Indians have been portrayed under Western eyes. Through June 12 at SFMOMA, 151 3rd St.

## Nash notes

Our fair city was once home to the *Beats*, to the *Summer of*

*Love*, to a thriving bohemian culture. Now, San Francisco is proud home to the filming of hack CBS-TV series *Nash Bridges*. Everywhere OT went last week, there was the Don Johnson vehicle, clogging city sidewalks with its overweight crew and cumbersome production paraphernalia. On gritty Folsom Street! On charming Hayes Street!

Our favorite bartender at Place Pigalle on Hayes told us that a fellow bartender, from Absinthe down the street, had come across a copy of a top-secret *Nash Bridges* script through unknown means. They acted it out together at the bar, using falsetto voices when appropriate. Their consensus: "Stupidest crap we ever read!"

## Friends of Dorothy

Out There was thrilled to see that in the midst of the schmaltzy campfest *These Old Broads* last week, ABC tipped its hat to these old fags with a promo commercial asking the loaded question, "Are you a friend of Dorothy?"

Well, duh.

The spot turned out to be a trailer for *Me & My Shadows*, based on Lorna Luft's memoir of life with her mama Judy Garland. See Richard Dodds' cover story this week on the homage to Lady G, which stars intense actress Judy Davis and airs on ABC beginning Feb. 25.

Since the *Hostess Huestis* invited La Luft to our Emerald City last year for one of his Castro galas, we asked him for his take on her.

"Lorna is one tough broad," said La H. "To her credit, she had the *cojones* to produce this movie. She's as much of her daddy's daughter dearest as her mama's little girl." Sid Luft, Lorna's papa, almost single-handedly produced Garland's great film *A Star Is Born*.

Huestis continued (did we ask him?): "Not long after Lorna left town, I had dinner with [SF society doyenne] Denise Hale, the second Mrs. Minnelli and Liza's stepmom. When I asked about the two half-sisters, Denise exhaled and sighed in her thickest Serbian accent, 'Ahhhhhh, dahhhhhlink, can't they just get along?'"

Just in time for the broadcast, seems Lorna and Liza are speaking again. Huestis, meanwhile, is busy writing his own tell-all tome, appropriately entitled *Tell Mama All*. ▼

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## THEATRE

# Difficult to like

## Controversial characters in Brad Fraser's 'Martin Yesterday'

by Richard Dodds

Is Brad Fraser tired of being labeled the "bad boy" of Canadian theater? "You have no idea," the playwright said from his home in Toronto. "I'm 41 years old. I'm not a boy. I'm not particularly bad, and I really feel that the whole thing is a way the straight media has of minimizing what I'm saying."

But neither the straight press nor the gay community at first found much to embrace in his play *Martin Yesterday*, opening this week at the New Conservatory Theatre Center. When it premiered in Toronto in 1997, the reviewers thought the play was too homophobic and got angry that they were excluded, Fraser said. "And there was something of an outcry from the gay community because I was talking about things like bareback sex and intentional infection with HIV, things I think we should be talking about."



Playwright Brad Fraser

When a theater in Edmonton, Fraser's hometown, asked to do the play, he rewrote it to give it a broader focus. "I changed one of the characters from male to female," he said, "and I took some of the issues that came up in the controversy after the Toronto production and made them issues between the characters. But when we did it in Edmonton, the attitude there was, 'What is this shit?'"

Fraser rewrote the play a third time for a theater in Manchester, England, and finally the tide began to turn. "The reaction was totally different," he said. "People weren't saying, 'Oh my God, this is a terrible play.' People were saying, 'Oh my God, this is a really difficult play. It's hard to like these characters, but it doesn't make it a bad play,' which is what I was hoping for all along."

The title character of *Martin Yesterday* is an out gay politician with a progressive message. "He's the kind of person who says and does all the right things, but when you scratch the surface, it's not very nice or constructive or healthy," Fraser said. "The character is the kind of gay man we all want to leave behind."

The other principal character is the thirtysomething Matt, who thinks he's finally met his Mr. Right in Martin Yesterday. "Matt is the most sympathetic character in the show," Fraser said, "but he ends up having unsafe sex and then having to deal with that. The real-

ity of that bothers a lot of people."

Matt was also a character in Fraser's *Poor Super Man*, a widely embraced play that is set to become a film. Another of Fraser's theatrical successes, *Unidentified Human Remains*, was also filmed. But he doesn't see that happening with *Martin Yesterday*.

"I had written my sympathetic AIDS play in *Poor Super Man*, which was about the good things that have come from the plague. I wanted to show the other side of the coin with *Martin Yesterday*. I tried to alleviate some of the heaviness with humor and titillation. But wanting people to like it really wasn't one of my objectives."

For tickets and info on *Martin Yesterday*, call 861-8972.

### Hurting again

Pete Hilton is the kind of man who has 911 on speed dial. The telephone is in fact this character's only connection to the outside world as he lives in mysterious seclusion in his 3-D chamber of pink.

Doug Holsclaw first played Pete Hilton in *Don't Make Me Say Things that Will Hurt You* at Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint in 1990. Holsclaw will return to his signature one-man show beginning March 2 at Theatre Rhino, where he is now artistic director.

In the 80-minute show, Holsclaw enacts the escapist fantasies of a character who admits he is living in a "fuchsia time capsule." Sabin Epstein, who directed the original production, returns to stage the 10th anniversary edition. Call 861-5019.

### Songs of Sondheim

Lots of Sondheim happening around the Bay Area, the most novel being a rare staging of *Assassins*.

The Venus Rising Company, now in the midst of its freshman season, is presenting Stephen Sondheim and John Weidman's quirky musical look at the men and women who have taken shots at US Presidents, from John Wilkes Booth to John Hinckley. "A must for history and biography buffs, or any red-blooded American," say the folks at Venus Rising.

Performances begin this weekend at the Dean Leshner Center in Walnut Creek, and Venus Rising has set aside March 8 for its gay and lesbian subscribers. The early 7:15 p.m. performance is followed by an open-bar reception with the performers. Call (925) 943-7469.

The more familiar *Into the Woods* also arrives this weekend, at the Foothill Music Theatre in Los Altos Hills. Jay Manley is directing the musical, which features a cast of professionals, community theater actors, and students from Foothill College. Call (650) 948-4444.

For one night only, on March 4, Martin Rojas and Sheila Savage will offer a program of *Simply Sondheim* for the Redwood City Theatrical Group's In Concert series. The performance takes place in the generically named Community Activities Building in Redwood City. Call (650) 368-1165.

### 'Country' life

For a playwright, it was a childhood that just had to be explored

Kevin Johnson in *A Fair Country*

dramatically. Jon Robin Baitz grew up gay, Jewish and white in South Africa when apartheid was the law of the land. His experiences inspired him to write *A Fair Country*, having its San Francisco debut this week at New Langton Arts.

Baitz, best known for his plays *Three Hotels* and *The Substance of Fire*, was born in Los Angeles in 1962 and moved to South Africa with his family when he was 10. In *A Fair Country*, the Burgess family are white Americans living in South Africa who struggle to keep their tenuous ties to each other in the face of the emotional and political turmoil.

Val Hendrickson is directing *A Fair Country* for Inquiline Theatre Company, which has previously staged Nicky Silver's *Raised in Captivity* and Mark Insko's *Frank Rich Is Dead*. Call 289-2260.

The cast of 42nd Street Moon's revue, *Guess What's Under My Umbrella*

### Short scenes

"Guess What's Under My Umbrella," a song from a scant remembered 1920s musical, is the name of 42nd Street Moon's annual fund-raising revue. A cast of Moon regulars will perform a collection of good songs from flop shows for four performances beginning March 1 at the Eureka Theater. Call 255-8207.

Guess who's on her way to San Jose? Academy Award-winning actress Holly Hunter will star in *By the Bog of Cats*, opening San Jose Rep's 2001-02 season in September. In Marina Carr's play, Hunter will play a troubled Irish woman haunted

ed by her mother and abandoned by the father of her daughter.

In July, Houston's Theatre Under the Stars will offer the world premiere of a musical based on *What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?* Music is by Lee Pockriss, who penned the bobby-soxer hit "Johnny Angel," and lyrics are by Hal Hackady, whose credits include the Marx Brothers musical *Minnie's Boys*. May we suggest Lorna Luft and Liza Minnelli as the Hudson sisters? ▼

Richard Dodds can be reached at [BARstage@aol.com](mailto:BARstage@aol.com).

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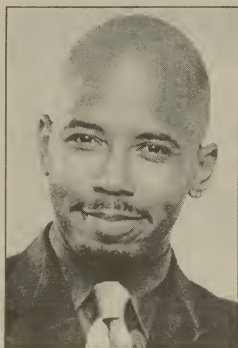
# Prime-time segregation

## Our annual survey of African Americans on TV

by Victoria A. Brownworth

**W**eeks before the 1999-2000 fall TV season, the NAACP filed suit against the four major networks (ABC, CBS, NBC and Fox) citing the dearth of African-American characters in new shows. Network execs promised to make changes. Sixteen months later, the TV landscape remains disturbingly monochromatic.

There are a few more dramatic roles for African-American characters, with ABC and NBC leading the Big Four. But the larger picture of network TV is still very white. Many programs have a black character or two, but those characters are expected to represent the entire black demographic, like Michael Boatman as Carter Heywood on ABC's sitcom *Spin City*. Since Carter is also gay, Boatman does double duty in the token de-



Spin City's Michael Boatman

partment.

A handful of dramatic series are well-integrated, largely because they have ensemble casts. The best-integrated series on network TV is ABC's medical drama *Gideon's Crossing*, which actually stars two actors of color, Emmy-winner Andre Braugher and Ruben Blades, and has several other actors of color in the ensemble cast. Braugher, one of the best actors on TV, plays a super-doc single dad. But because his chief resident is also black and his interns include an East Indian, a Puerto Rican Jew and a couple of white guys, the cast is wholly integrated. Thus Braugher's *Gideon* isn't tokenized, despite his Super Doc status.

Braugher is superb in the role, his *Gideon* a multifaceted and highly complex character. (And as we saw in last season's fabulous ABC reality series *Hopkins* 24/7, African Americans are super docs — it's not just white men doing that job anymore.)

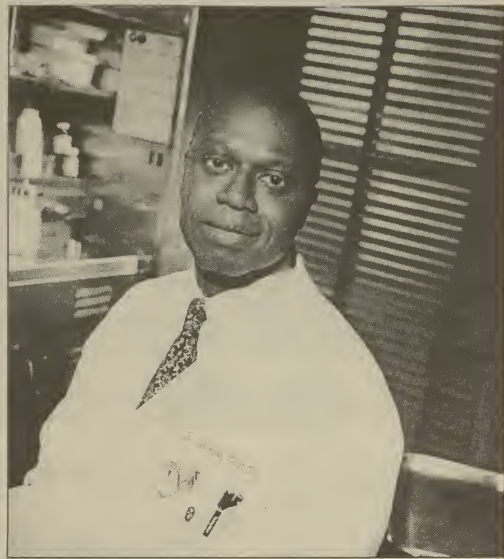
ABC's long-running med drama *ER* also gets high marks, having always had an integrated ensemble cast, with African-American actor Eriq LaSalle getting equal billing with Anthony Edwards. This year saw the additions of African-American actress Michael Michele, Ming-Na and Eric Palladino in the first-echelon ensemble, and Ellen Crawford and Gedde Watanabe among the regular supporting cast. *ER* also regularly incorporates other actors of color into its storylines.

### Balance beam

The same is true of NBC's *Law & Order*, *Law & Order: SVU* and *Third Watch*. Each has had actors of color in its ensemble casting since it premiered. *SVU* recently lost Michele Hurd but picked up Ice-T in her place, keeping the racial, if not gender, balance. Conversely, the otherwise superb *The West Wing* has only one actor of color, Dule Hill, in the regular cast, and few supporting actors of color. The high-rated ABC series *Once and Again* may be the whitest show on TV.

ABC's *The Practice* and *NYPD Blue* also have integrated casts, but on *Practice* the storylines tend to focus on the main white characters, often leaving the superb Steve Harris and Lisa Guy Hamilton adrift. *Blue* has two actors of color in its ensemble cast, but has more actors of color in its storylines than any other network series. Unlike *Spin City*, this show knows New York is 32 percent African American.

CBS has token black characters in most of its series — *CSI*, *The Fugitive*, *Walker, Texas Ranger*, *Judging Amy* and *Family Law*. The



Andre Braugher in ABC's medical drama *Gideon's Crossing*

med drama *City of Angels*, with its nearly all-black cast, was a critical success but ratings failure.

Shows targeting younger viewers don't necessarily incorporate more color. The WB is disturbingly segregated. *Dawson's Creek* and *Buffy, the Vampire Slayer* rarely have any black characters in the storylines, and have none in the ensemble casts. *Angel* added J. August Richards (Gunn) to the cast in the fall, but although the show is set in Los Angeles, Angel and his crew rarely see anyone of color outside the 'hood.

Fox has several well-integrated shows, including *Ally McBeal* and *Dark Angel*, which stars the multiethnic Jessica Alba as Max and Valerie Rae Miller as her African-American lesbian friend, Original Cindy (though Miller does the same double-duty as Boatman on *Spin City*). Fox also has the highly-touted new series *Boston Public*, which, like *Gideon's Crossing*, has a well-integrated ensemble cast and a black star in Chi McBride, who plays principal Steve Harper.

But while some dramatic series have begun to incorporate African Americans into their casts, sitcoms remain very segregated. The top-rated sitcoms are all white. There are no blacks on *Friends*, *Frasier*, *Dharma and Greg* or *Will & Grace*. On UPN, *The Steve Harvey Show*, *The Parkers* and *Martin* are equally segregated — all black. The sitcom *Sabrina, the Teenage Witch* got knocked off ABC a nanosecond after its wholesome girl-next-door star Melissa Joan Hart posed barely clothed for the men's magazine *Maxim*. The show was picked up by the WB, where it immediately gained color and ethnic flavor. ABC also ditched one of the only integrated sitcoms on TV, *The Hughleys*, which was picked up by (where else?) UPN.

### Beyond Oprah

The most segregated areas of TV programming aren't prime time. On daytime TV, where talk shows vie with soap operas, there are few non-white faces beyond Oprah's. *The Young and the Restless*, set in the Midwest, is the only soap with real storylines for its black characters. But travel to LA for *The Bold and the Beautiful*, and find not a single African American; nor are there any in

Salem, where *Days of Our Lives* is set.

The only black face in Pine Valley on *All My Children* is Derek the police lieutenant, who never interacts with other characters except when they've killed someone. Up the road in Llanview, *One Life to Live*'s Hank Gannon gets to prosecute white characters as D.A., but the town's main criminal is his brother, R.J. And in Port Charles, there are no black docs at *General Hospital* — but there is the erstwhile black detective, Taggart; his sister, Gia, a one-time blackmailer; and the black assistant D.A., Dara.

There are no African American hosts on late-night TV or the morning shows (though the three major networks each has a black weatherman). The evening news unveils its anchors of color when it unveils its female anchors (they are one and the same) — on the weekends and in the middle of the night.

It's been 40 years since Bill Cosby broke the prime-time color barrier, but the battle to integrate television is still being waged. Of the five most valuable writers on TV named by *TV Guide*, all five are white men. There are few black writers and even fewer black producers, yet demographically a higher percentage of African Americans watches TV than any other racial group.

Does TV look more diverse than last year? A bit. But the limitations placed on African-American characters remain. They most often fill one of two roles: law enforcement or criminal. When they play alternate roles, like La Salle's Peter Benton on *ER*, they meld the two. Benton is an angry black surgeon with a chip on his shoulder. Ten years ago, he would have been a criminal; he's still wielding a knife, but now he might save a life more easily than take it.

An essential part of furthering integration on network TV is broadening the characterization of African-American characters and expanding their interaction with white characters. TV is the most common thread in the fabric of American culture, but black faces on TV have yet to become commonplace. Until this changes, TV will continue to be the most segregated area of American life. ▼

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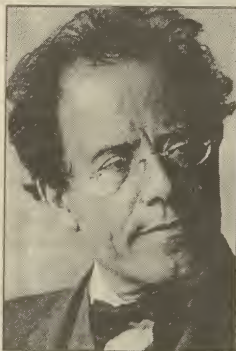
# The Gustav & Igor show

## SF Symphony does Mahler and Stravinsky

by Philip Campbell

**S**an Francisco Symphony audiences have been treated recently to an entertaining preview of the orchestra's upcoming national tour. For regulars, it might have seemed like a very polished series of dress rehearsals, but there were just enough surprises and personnel changes to keep repeats from previous seasons, the Stravinsky Festival and Mahler Celebration fresh and illuminating.

Music Director Michael Tilson Thomas makes no secret of his predilection for certain composers, and lucky New Yorkers will soon be thrilling to his way with Stravinsky and Mahler. The tour will also include 145 members of Vance George's SFS Chorus in concerts at Carnegie Hall. This is an historic first, and a terrific thank you for years of impressive work. The orchestra will travel on to Long Island and Washington DC, but Gotham is in for the best of the scheduled programs.



Gustav Mahler in 1907

Gustav Mahler's *Das klagende Lied* — roughly, *Song of Lament* (as suggested by SFS program annotator Michael Steinberg) — has been performed here twice, with the complete version, led by MTT, premiering in 1996. Those concerts generated a well-received live recording for RCA Red Seal. Tilson Thomas remains a tireless champion of what amounts to a student work by one of music's most quixotic composers.

The score is certainly imaginative, revealing early on a unique gift for orchestration and moody atmosphere. If the text — cobbled from various sources, but mostly indebted to the Brothers Grimm — appears a little irrelevant, that seems never to have occurred to the passionate young composer. As a strange and unsettling fairy tale, *Das klagende Lied* manages to succeed on its own terms.

Aside from curiosity value, however, full-scale performances must be justified by a conviction in the music's worth and by thorough-going excellence among the participants. No worries on that

score with MTT on the podium. He has drilled the orchestra to a sumptuous richness and refined attention to detail. The quartet of vocalists was also very satisfactory, and it was no fault of theirs if the Chorus upstaged them: they get the most interesting music, after all.

Mezzo-soprano Michelle DeYoung reprised her excellent work from 1996, as heard on the compact disc issue, but her voice sounded a trifle constricted at the top, and soprano Christine Goerke somewhat eclipsed her with a bigger sound and absolutely ravishing pitch. The men, tenor Jon Vickers and bass-baritone Clayton Brainerd, were more than serviceable, but they didn't impress with the same startling beauty of tone as Goerke's.

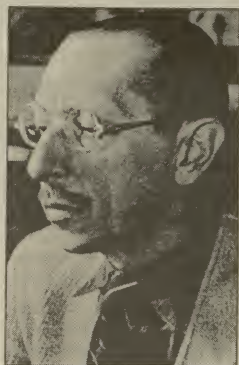
It was the chorus and orchestra who won the audience's acclaim. Tilson Thomas' off-stage bands were amazingly in synch and lent a real sense of pageantry, while the declamations of the choristers raised goosebumps. The evening began with a heartfelt rendition of the Adagio from Symphony No. 10, arguably the last music Mahler ever wrote. So the concert was a traversal of the visionary's remarkable career in a single night, just the kind of thing MTT does best. Manhattan may carp about the content, but they will love the presentation.

### Wedding rites

The previous week brought an all-Stravinsky concert that also displayed our fearless leader reveling in his own and a favorite composer's brilliance. The big surprise of the evening was a performance of the earliest version of *Les Noces* (*The Wedding*), edited posthumously by Stravinsky expert Robert Craft and Ramiro Cortes. The usual performances of this raucous and invigorating piece include four pianos and percussion, which lend a primitive and startlingly modern sound. Hearing the work with a much grander ensemble (including eight strings, harps, brass, woodwinds, cimbalom and harpsichord, but only one piano) proved a major discovery.

The use of supertitles (and here I am risking censure from the snobs) helped immeasurably in conveying the silly, rough-and-tumble humor of the words. This depiction of a Russian peasant ritual would seem to attract the same rowdiness and sarcasm as *Tony and Tina's Wedding*. Catching the overlapping commentaries of the assembled guests while they were being sung was an unexpected delight.

The soloists from that concert will also travel to New York. Elena Evseeva, Nadezhda Serdjuk, Viktor Lutsjuk and Sergei Aleksashkin (easy for you to say) gave just the right touch of Slavic flavor and managed to dominate a stage that was also well-filled with enthusi-



Composer Igor Stravinsky

astic performers. Vance George must still be in shock from training his Chorus to switch from the usual version to this very differently enunciated edition.

A repeat assemblage of the cast from the Grammy Award-winning 1999 recording of *Perséphone* opened the concert. This is Stravinsky in his cool, relatively unemotional neo-classical (and thoroughly French) mode, and it can't pack the same wallop as *Les Noces* because it is not intended to. Rather, this is a lyrical, surprisingly melodic score that celebrates devotion and the ever-changing natural world.

There were no new insights, but Stephanie Cosserrat remains a lovely and idiomatic narrator, though tenor Stuart Neill was showing a strain that I didn't recall. He will doubtless be in more relaxed voice by the time he hits New York (as will DeYoung, we hope). The SFS Chorus sounds dreamy in this music, and the San Francisco Girls Chorus and Ragazzi, the Peninsula Boys Chorus (respective directors: Elizabeth Avakian and Joyce Keil) were integrated well by Tilson Thomas.

The Stravinsky concert concluded with the exquisite *Symphony of Psalms* (last heard in Grace Cathedral during the festival). Once again, the Chorus made ecstatic music, sending patrons onto Van Ness with their heads in the clouds. It is an irritation that MTT is still taking the closing pages of the score at such a labored speed, but he is the boss with this composer, and if he can copy this concert for the tough-minded crowds of the Big Apple, San Francisco can be proud. ▼

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# Lust in the twilight zone

by Jim Nawrocki

*Dirty Words* by M. Christian;  
Alyson, \$14.95

Robert Serling assured himself a place in the history of American popular culture by creating *The Twilight Zone*, a TV show that presented memorable tales of the unexpected. The show's title has become synonymous with all that is paranormal, undefined or just plain weird. The San Francisco writer who goes by the name M. Christian has just come out with *Dirty Words*, a new collection of "provocative erotica" in which he seems to have great fun playing with genres, pushing a few buttons, and of course spinning an erotic tale or two. Christian has created his own kind of erotic "twilight zone."

In his introduction to the collection, writer Pat Califia-Rice groups Christian among a league of San Francisco writers he calls "the Glamorous Nerd Pornographers." As Califia-Rice sees it, these writers are responsible for a "renaissance of smart smut" that "preserve[s] the tenor of a given moment in human history." That seems like a pretty high-blown description for a group of "smut" writers, but Christian's writing is smart in the sense that it offers more than just raw sex.

Many of the stories in *Dirty Words* are set in San Francisco and seem imbued with the flavor of the city's gay subcultures. In this particular book, though, Christian seems more intent on surprising us than on presenting a reflection of the Bay Area gay community in all of its facets. Like a typical "twilight zone" story, many of Christian's tales play with our expectations and take us to places we haven't been before.

He isn't afraid to venture into the realms of the supernatural and science fiction. The intriguing story "Blue Boy," for example, takes place in a strange, not-too-distant future in which a special

class of people, called "blues," are created for the sexual and homicidal amusement of the populace. In "Counting," he depicts a San Francisco of the future in which the city is ruled by armed, warring factions. Christian also delves into that favorite genre, the vampire story. The gay Draculas he presents in his story "Wet" are a somewhat modernized take on the idea — instead of crosses, coffins and crucifixes, Christian's vamps are thoughtful, sexy blood-suckers who are also looking for a little love.

## High spirits

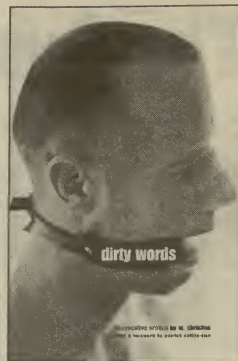
One of the most *Twilight Zone*-like stories in the book is "Match," in which a self-described troll of a man finds sexual communion and ecstasy in an erotic near-death experience. Imprisoned in a body that has fallen into obesity and ugliness, the main character suddenly finds himself free of his old, decrepit skin and free to love with a new, beautiful semi-spiritual form. He unites with another equally sexy male spirit, and the two of them frolic in bliss above the city — until their paradise is thwarted, of course. Christian makes this, and other strange worlds of his creation, convincing and memorable.

In addition to outright explorations of the supernatural, Christian also likes to write tales with a twist about more down-to-earth folks. He seems to play with the reader's expectations for the sheer entertainment (his and ours) of subverting them. In "Echoes," for example, a man who murders his lover is haunted by vivid images of his victim's decaying corpse. He eventually cures himself of his nightmares, with unexpected results.

In "Chickenhawk," a young boy gets picked up by a pedophile, and the anticipated menace of the story eventually plays itself out — but, again, with a bit of a surprise. There's a fair amount of violence in these stories, sexual violence, and outright murder. Of course there's plenty of sex, too, but almost all of it is presented in the context of some out-of-the-ordinary situation. "Spike," for example, is one of the more purely sexual stories in the book, but it happens to be about sex between two identical twins. In "What Ever Happened to..." two drag queens named "Joan" and "Betty" (hmmm, figure out that reference) engage in a bit of rough role-playing. One of the odder offerings in the book is "Puppy," about a man and his dog — enough said.

For readers looking for gay erotica that offers a little more

than just sex, *Dirty Words* is a nice diversion. Christian's stories are inventive, engaging and entertaining. He seems to be at his best when he creates worlds we've never seen before. And he offers something a little different when he plays with the genres we have seen before. *Dirty Words* is a fun read. ▼



## Wizard of Oz

◀ Arts cover

filmed for making a movie of the beloved musical but replacing the original songs with new ones. She complained that the public loved the old music and couldn't understand why the original score wasn't retained. (Unfortunately, Swartz doesn't tell us what Parsons' reaction was when she heard the classic 1939 songs for the first time.)

## Hardy woodsman

Well-known vaudevillians played the Scarecrow, the Cowardly Lion, and the Tin Woodsman on stage. The last was at one point acted by Oliver Hardy before he teamed up with Stan Laurel to make motion-picture history. Ray Bolger, who would portray the Scarecrow in the 1939 film, admitted to having been influenced by Fred Stone, who enacted the character on the stage. Stone inspired Bolger to develop his trademark rubber-legged dancing style.

Hollywood filmed the story — or versions of it — in 1910 and

1925. Both those films featured elaborate sets and costumes. The latter had a "Phantom of the Baskin" number that featured female impersonator Frederick Ko Vert, stunningly gowned in beads and pearls, and wearing a spectacular peacock feather hat.

Independent producer Samuel Goldwyn owned the movie rights and sold them to his former studio, but only after protracted negotiations. MGM immediately tried to borrow Shirley Temple for Dorothy, but 20th Century Fox refused to lend her. Only then did MGM chief Louis B. Mayer agree to cast Garland, whom he referred to as "the fat one." Initial attempts to force her to wear a curly wig to mimic Temple's tresses were soon dropped. When the original Tin Woodsman, Buddy Ebsen, developed a poisonous allergy to the silver paint he had to wear, Jack Haley replaced him. Veteran Broadway musical star Bert Lahr became the Cowardly Lion.

Arthur Freed, who headed up the studio's music unit, was determined that the film have an original score, one that integrated the



Female impersonator Frederick Ko Vert as the Phantom in 1925's silent film of *The Wizard of Oz*

numbers and the story. He insisted on hiring Harold Arlen and E.Y. Harburg to write the music and lyrics, respectively. The film's producer, Mervyn LeRoy, decided that the Wizard would not be exposed as a fraud until the end of the movie, unlike the two previous films, which reveal the truth early in the story. LeRoy, director Victor Fleming, and other executives, however, wanted to cut "Somewhere Over the Rainbow," because it slowed down the action. Freed persuaded them not to.

Although the 1939 movie took

many liberties with the details of Baum's novel — the magic slippers were changed from silver to ruby; the good witch is lovely, rather than old and haggard — it was faithful to the spirit of the book, insists Swartz. This was especially true of the visuals. In the novel, Kansas is colorless and drab, and Oz is brilliant — which is exactly the case in the movie. And if Dorothy is not a little girl, she is, in Garland's exquisite performance, innocent and awe-struck, but resourceful and courageous as well.

Production costs of the 1939 movie were enormous for the time, and although the film did very well at the box office, it did not make a profit until after it was re-released in 1949. Starting in the 1950s, it was televised annually, making it the most seen movie in history. Its impact was so great that it influenced subsequent stage productions, notably a version produced by the St. Louis Opera Company in 1942. In 1975, an all-black Broadway musical with a new score, *The Wiz*, proved a hit, but the 1978 film, starring Diana Ross, Michael Jackson, and Lena Horne, was not the hoped-for success.

Although published by a university press, Swartz's book is written in a lively, accessible style. He does a fine job chronicling the history of an important influence on popular culture. ▼

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## Judy times Judy

◀ Arts cover

Robert L. Freedman's screenplay clearly wants to touch as many bases as possible as it tries to capture the complicated, volatile Garland. But, if anything, the movie softens the trauma of life with Judy Garland. Yes, she is seen slurring her words before a concert, for example, but her onstage collapses in front of her children and even the boos and tossed food that some of her disastrous final performances generated are left to the imagination.

Meron and Zadan were more interested in exploring the once-in-a-lifetime talent of Judy Garland, though providing signposts for unstable behavior, than in depicting the gruesome details. "Nobody has ever really shown Judy Garland as a loving mother before," Meron said, "and how having a sick mother impacts a family."

### Out of control

Luft's book is more unsettling than its filmed counterpart, offering horrifying scenes of an out-of-control mother endangering her children. But Luft is a co-executive producer on the movie, and worked closely with Freedman as he crafted his script. Luft was also on the set during the entire shoot.

"Lorna was kind of our fact-checker on the set," Meron said, "and she was there for moral support in terms of influencing performances. Lorna was basically the greatest cheerleader we had on the movie."

And Liza Minnelli, who is briefly depicted in the movie? "Since Lorna and Liza have had their rebonding, Lorna showed Liza a trailer for the movie, and



Judy Davis stars in *Life with Judy Garland: Me and My Shadows*

she was ecstatic," Meron said.

In the movie, it is suggested that Sid Luft, Lorna's father and Judy's third husband, squandered her money, and that Vincente Minnelli, Liza's dad and Judy's second husband, was gay. The gayness of Judy's father as well as husband No. 4 Mark Herron is more overtly depicted.

"We had to be careful not to malign anybody," Meron said, "but most of it is in the public record, so we don't need permis-

sion to depict these people."

Getting rights to use the songs heard in the movie was a far bigger issue. "It was a huge chore, and we had a team of lawyers working on just that," Meron said.

### Playing Judy

What might seem the most daunting challenge, finding an actress to play Judy Garland, was perhaps the easiest part of making the movie. "We had the pleasure of working with Judy Davis on *Serv-*

*ing in Silence*, when she played Glenn Close's lover," Meron said. "And she was the only person we ever thought of to play Garland, because we knew Judy Davis is like a volcano and so is Judy Garland. It was the first call we made, and she committed on the spot. And then she became petrified. When she committed, she didn't really know that much about Judy Garland, and then we started bombarding her with all this material, and that's when she got scared."

But Davis obviously did her homework, and while she only slightly resembles Garland, she often uncannily captures her vocal inflections and body language. With the exception of a scene in which she sings "Over the Rainbow" by telephone to President Kennedy, in order to irk the CBS executives who are about to ax her show, all of the singing has been dubbed using Garland's original recordings.

Director Robert Allan Ackerman and the designers meticulously captured Garland's look, and the

scenes recreating musical numbers from *The Wizard of Oz*, *Girl Crazy*, *Meet Me in St. Louis* and *A Star Is Born*, as well as her triumph at Carnegie Hall, are eerily authentic.

"I think people thought this was kind of a mission to be accurate and to take good care of Judy," Meron said. "People wanted to take good care of Judy."

Meron and Zadan's next project is a TV version of *The Music Man* starring Matthew Broderick, and then there is *Mame*, possibly with Cher in the title role.

"You look at the body of work and you think it has to reflect some of who you are," Meron said, "and being gay men and being passionate about what we do, you do choose projects you personally respond to. There is a gay sensibility to practically all our work, and I'm glad people notice that." ▼

*Life with Judy Garland: Me and My Shadows* will air on ABC Feb. 25 & 26 at 9 p.m.

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# OUT & ABOUT



Performance artist Gina Bold performs at Harvey Milk Institute's *Spring Fling* at the Women's Building. See Wednesday.



Inhuman: KRK Ryden's mutant art at 111 Minna Gallery. See Thursday.

## Calendare by Jim Provenzano

### I'm only dancing

With arts groups of all kinds facing eviction even under the post-dotcom reign, don't expect "trickle-down" economics to help out with spare change. Here's a host of terpsichorean tributes and theatrics to tempt you to fan-dance or become a dance fan.

Alonzo King's Lines Ballet will celebrate Mardi Gras with a benefit to help save the SF Dance Center, the largest dance facility this side of Lincoln Center. More than 6,000 students a month take classes there. Despite the need, without support it may soon be closed. So get on your fancy attire (black tie optional for men and drag kings) on Tuesday, February 27. Flamenco artist La Tania, aerial dancer Joanna Haigood, and Lines company members will perform. Prima ballerina Natalia Makarova Karker joins other cultural celebs in a cocktail reception, silent auction, and dinner. \$175-250. 6-9:30 p.m. at Teatro ZinZanni, Pier 27/29. Reservations: 863-1248. Info: [www.linesballet.org](http://www.linesballet.org)

If your art budget's less pricey (\$15-18), catch Company Chad-dick's *Degrees of Change* at Theater Artaud for two world premiere dances. "Hard Drive" probes the computer employment dilemma, while "Ask No More," set to music by Iva Bittova and Hildegard Von Bingen, recalls the romanticism of the pre-Raphaelites. It happens Thursday-Saturday, March 1-10, at Theater Artaud, 450 Florida St. Info: 621-7797; [www.theaterartaud.org](http://www.theaterartaud.org).

Shifting back in time, *In the Glow of the Sun King* assembles la creme de la French Baroque music in performances by the San Francisco Early Music Society. Close your eyes, and gold-corniced chariots appear from the clouds. Open your eyes and watch Julie Andrijeski perform historically accurate dance suites. (This style of dance is fun for the calf muscles, what with all those demi-relevees under 50 pounds of period costume). \$19-22. Sunday at 5:30 p.m., Grace Cathedral Chapel. Info: (510) 528-1725; [www.sfems.org](http://www.sfems.org).

Headdresses aren't much more comfortable than courtly garb, but given the right design, one can still shake a groove thing, or admire those who can tote Vegas-size plumage. The Bay Area Brazilian Club celebrates its 32nd year of bringing Bahia to the Bay at the Brazilian Carnival Ball. Musical groups SensaSamba, Samuca Bateria, and Swing de Cor Trio perform. If feathers aren't in your flock, come as your favorite Brazilian soccer player (oh, the choices). Saturday, February 24. 8 p.m. - 2 a.m. Galleria/Design Center, 1010 Henry Adams St. \$25 (tables for \$100). Info: 334-0106; [www.FriendsofBrazil.org](http://www.FriendsofBrazil.org).

Go gaga for Cuba! Vodou, Cha Cha and Gaga, variations on Haitian Cuban dance, will be performed by Ban Rarra, a lively ensemble of 14 dancers, singers and musicians from Cuba's easternmost province of Guantanamo. \$17. Thurs.-Sun., February 22 to March 11. ODC Theater, 3153 17th St. Shake your groove thing with Ban Rarra at a more informal Rumba Party on Sunday, March 4 at 8 p.m. \$10. Info: 863-9834; [www.odcdance.org/theater](http://www.odcdance.org/theater).

If all that dancing gives you a backache, relax at eMotion Pictures: an Exhibition of Orthopaedics in Art. No, it's not chiropractic office lobby landscapes, but art that focuses on the spine as subject matter. A diverse array of figurative, abstract and sculptural works are on display through March 20 at the Herbst International Exhibition Hall, 385 Moraga Ave. in the Presidio. 441-3400, ext. 3. ▼

## Fri 23

### Jon Sims Center

AIReSpace dance artists in residence Kunst-Stoff presents a workshop production of "Everything is Under Control," directed by Yannis Adoniou in collaboration with the dancers and composer-poet Kevin Donlon, filmmaker Evann Siebens and technical wiz Matthew DeGumbia. \$5-\$10 sliding (NOTAFLOF). 8pm. 1519 Mission St. Info: 554-0402; [www.jonsimsctr.org](http://www.jonsimsctr.org)

### New Langton Arts

"A Fair Country," gay playwright Jon Robin Baitz's latest compelling drama, traverses the globe in telling the story of an '80s-era diplomat torn by cruel decisions, and the effect of his political life on his two sons, one gay, one not. \$12-15. 8pm. Thru March 25. New Langton Arts, 1246 Folsom St. (btwn. 8th & 9th). Info: 289-2260.

### Brava Theatre Center

"StopKiss," Diana Son's Obie Award-winning play, deftly explores the sexual identity crisis faced by two women before and after being attacked on a New York street. \$12-30. 8pm. Thru March 11. 2789 24th St. (at York). Tix/info: 392-4400; [www.brava.org](http://www.brava.org)

### Castro Theatre

Fa's a note that follows So in "The Sing-A-Long Sound of Music" a subtitled version of the famed Austrian family's musical rise to fame and Nazi persecution. Whether you are 16 or going on 60, it's a treat to sing like a Von Trapp. \$20-22.50. Thru March 1. 7:30pm; Sat & Sun. matinees at 2pm. Castro Theatre, at Market. Tix/info: (510) 601-TWEB; [www.singalonga.com](http://www.singalonga.com)

### New Conservatory Theatre

"Martin Yesterday," Canadian Playwright Brad Fraser's new drama, sizzles with sex and politics. At thirty-something, Matt's longing for maturity and commitment. Enter Martin Yesterday, a middle-aged city official who appears just right, if not for some dark and destructive secrets. \$17-22. 8pm. Thru Apr. 7. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness Ave. at Market, lower lobby. 861-8972.

### Theater Artaud

The Paul Dresher Ensemble Electro-Acoustic Band presents "Raven-shead," an opera for solo voice composed by Steve Mackey with librettist Rinde Eckert, directed by Tony Taccone. It's a journey into the heart and mind of a flamboyant hero in an unheroic age, featuring a tour-de-force performance by writer/singer/actor Eckert who plays Donald Crowhurst, a deluded seafaring entrepreneur. \$18-22.50. 8pm. Sun. at 7pm. Thru February 25. 450 Florida St. (at 17th St.). Info: 621-7797.

### Exit Theatre

"Girlesque, an 8 1/2 Woman, One Man Show," brings drag to multiple personalities as created by writer/performer Sean Owens. \$15. 8pm. Fri. & Sat. Thru Mar. 3. EXIT Theatre, 156 Eddy at Mason. Tix/info: 255-2066;

[www.seanowens.com](http://www.seanowens.com). [www.nctcsf.org](http://www.nctcsf.org)

### Contra Costa College, San Pablo

Bill Shakespeare was gay, but try telling that to Miramax, or Tom Stoppard. "Romeo & Juliet," the Bard's tragic play about gang wars, teen suicide and furtive balcony smooches, will receive a modern update, performed by college students who hopefully aren't having the same troubles. \$8. 8pm. Thru March 4. 2600 Mission Bell Drive, San Pablo. Info: (510) 235-7800, ext. 4274.

### Intersection

Campo Santo's production of "CON-TAGION: an american book of the dead," John Stepping's new play, follows seven ghostlike expatriates traveling the globe in search of their own histories, and an escape from their whoring, porn and drug-ridden pasts. Directed by Sean San José ("Pieces of the Quilt"). \$9-15. 8pm. Thru Mar. 12. 446 Valencia St. Info: 626-3311; [www.theIntersection.org](http://www.theIntersection.org)

### Studio 210

"La Ronde," Arthur Schnitzler's play about naughty barebacking heterosexuals in fin-de-siecle Vienna, once considered scandalous, was banned in Germany, and now seems fairly quaint. Staged by Goat Island, a new theatre company. \$10-14. 8pm. Sun. at 2pm. Thru March 4. 3435 Cesar Chavez (at Valencia). Info: 641-4963; [www.goatland.org](http://www.goatland.org).

### San Jose Center for the Performing Arts

Ballet San Jose Silicon Valley performs Leonide Massine's fabulous "Gaité Parisienne," set to the score by Jacques Offenbach. Yes, this is where that raucous can-can dance was perfected. Also Flemming Flindt's "Phaedra," set to music by Philip Glass. \$20-65. 8pm. Thru Sun. (at 1:30 & 7:30pm). 255 Almaden Blvd., downtown San Jose. Info: (408) 288-2800; [www.balletsanjose.org](http://www.balletsanjose.org).

## Sat 24

### New Conservatory Theatre

Pride Season presentation: "Snakebit," gay actor/playwright David Marshall Grant's drama concerning three friends in Los Angeles facing Hollywood agents, ex-boyfriends' boyfriends, and their own romantic indiscretions. Directed by Arturo Catricala. 8pm. Sun. at 2pm. \$15-25. Thru March 24. 25 Van Ness Ave., lower lobby. Tix/info: 861-8972; [www.nctcsf.org](http://www.nctcsf.org).

### 19 Broadway, Fairfax

Singer/songwriter Garrin Benfield, an important voice in the new acoustic movement, who happens to be gay, performs an opening set for SF pop/rock duo Box Set. The venue is a down-home, cozy tavern in a quaint Marin County resort town. \$8. 9:30pm. Info: (415) 459-1091; [www.garrin.com](http://www.garrin.com)

### ATA Gallery

"Pixelfest 10" assembles some of the best tyncam classics, including

"Death Roach 2000" "Owed to a Penis," "Closets, Crushes, Confusions and Sex," and Sonic Youth's Lee Ranaldo's "Book of Dreams: Through Kerouac's Lowell." Black and white TV hasn't been this fun since Winky Dink. \$5. 8pm. 992 Valencia St. Info: 824-3890.

### Borders Books

"WriterCorps' Youth Poetry Slam" showcases the in-your-face spells of spoken word artists from Everett Middle School and The Girls After School Academy. Free. 4pm. Borders Books and Music, 400 Post St. at Powell, 3rd fl. Info: 252-4655; [www.writer-corps-sf.org](http://www.writer-corps-sf.org)

### Center for African American Art & Culture

"Black History Month Symposium," a group panel, will discuss how institutions of learning have interpreted historic Black experiences, from Harper's Ferry to Hip Hop. Lunch available for \$10. 9am-3pm. Center for African American Art & Culture, 762 Fulton St. Info: 292-6172.

### Lucie Stern Theatre, Palo Alto

"Tartuffe," Molière's brilliant comedy about the unmasking of a hypocrite, in Kirke Mechem's operatic form, is performed by West Bay Opera, in English with supertitles. \$18 (youth under 18) & \$36. 8pm (Sun. at 2pm). Thru Mon. Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto. Info: (650) 424-9999; [www.wboopera.org](http://www.wboopera.org).

### Northside Theatre Company, San Jose

"The Importance of Being Earnest," Oscar Wilde's classic comedy of manners and cucumber sandwiches, remains as witty as ever. \$10-12. 8pm. Sun. at 3pm. Thru March 4. 848 East William St., San Jose. Tix/info: (408) 288-7820; [www.northsidetheatre.com](http://www.northsidetheatre.com)

### Magic Theatre

"Howie the Rookie," Irish playwright Mark O'Rowe's fendishly funny two-man play, explores the high tensions of Dublin low-lives. \$25-30. 8pm. Sun. at 2:30pm. Thru March 4. Bldg. D, Fort Mason Center (Marina Blvd. at Buchanan). Tix/info: 441-8822; [www.magictheatre.org](http://www.magictheatre.org)

### Paradise Lounge

"Glitz," a Glamorous Rock 'n' Roll Party, was so successful last month that it's thankfully returned, featuring The Mimsies (formerly of Oklahoma), Tokyo Marine Fire (not from Tokyo), and the unstopably fabulous Blue Period (San Francisco and other galaxies). Enjoy DJ Danny's spin talents, go-go dancers, and an Instant Glamour Booth for the fashion-impaired. \$5 before 10pm, \$10 afterward. 8:30pm-2am. Paradise Lounge, 308 11th St. Info: 621-1911.

### Theatre on the Square

"The Vagina Monologues," Eve Ensler's acclaimed Off-Broadway show with engagingly funny and honest monologues about women's bodies and lives, features new cast members Kathleen Chalfont (Angels in America), Jill Eikenberry (LA Law) and Bay Area actress Lorri Holt. \$35-50. 5pm & 8pm (8:30pm on Fri., Sun. at 3 & 7pm). Thru March 11. 450 Post St. Tix: 433-9500; [www.theatreonthesquare.com](http://www.theatreonthesquare.com)

## Sun 25

### Metropolitan Community Church

Simply Supper, a benefit dinner for MCC's food program, gets spicy with a Fiesta Latina, including tamales, rice, green salad, chips & salsa, special dessert, beverages and a raffle. Guest musician: Tommi Avicolli Mecca on acoustic guitar. Bring your appetite. \$10 adults, \$8 seniors, \$5 kids. 5-7pm. MCC Social Hall, 150 Eureka St. (at 18th St.), 2nd floor. Info: (650) 580-0640.

### GLBT Historical Society

"One Life For Another: The Survivor's Story," Barbi Schreiber's photographs of ACT UP and Queer Nation activists. Exhibit shows thru March 4. Free. GLBT Historical Society, 973 Market (at Sixth). Info: 777-5455.

### Asian Art Museum

"Taoism and the Arts of China" 150 ancient Asian works of art, including rare scroll paintings, sculptures, tiles and books. Thru May 13. Chong-Moon



Lee Center for Asian Art and Culture,  
Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park.  
Info: [www.asianart.org](http://www.asianart.org)

### Culture Cache Gallery

"Winston Smith: No Turning Back! New Obscenities and Relics From the Vault" includes his subversive collage art culled from vintage magazine ads, with some punk-era posters and grand new works. 2-7pm and by appt. Thru Feb. 28. Culture Cache Gallery, 731 Florida at 20th. Info: 642-2360; [www.culturecache.com](http://www.culturecache.com); winston-smith.com.

### Lafayette Veteran's Memorial Building

"Goddess Hygieia's Day Healing Circle" includes drumming, sacred readings, women-centered crafts and spiritual healing, presented by Daughters of the Goddess. Bring drums, food (yes, it's also a potluck), and mats to sit on. \$50. 11:30am-3:30pm. Lafayette Veteran's Memorial Building, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette. Info: (925) 256-8109.

## Mon 26

### Cafe Du Nord

Singer/songwriter Garrin Benfield appears as a guest of "Monday Night Hoot," a bi-weekly series featuring the best and brightest of the SF music scene, hosted by Eric Shea and Molly Tuttle. 9pm. 2170 Market St. Info: 861-5016; [www.garrin.com](http://www.garrin.com)

### Piaf's Restaurant & Cabaret

QComedy.com presents "Gay Comedy Showcase at Piaf's," the classy French bar/restaurant, this week hosted by Janis Lipton, with the queer humor of Heather Woodhull, Cathie B., Eric Lindstrom and Bridget Schwartz. \$5. 8pm. 1686 Market St. (at Gough). Info: 541-5610.

### Good Vibrations (SF & Berkeley)

Laura Paris' motorized flying hermaphroditic genitalia sculptures take the body into third gender dimensions at Good Vibrations SF, 1210 Valencia St. Info: 974-8985. An exhibit of works by Tony De Bone and sex industry performance artist Annie Sprinkle, titled "Sex, Bombs and Bombshells" continues at the Berkeley store at 2504 San Pablo Ave. Info: (510) 841-0171; [www.goodvibes.com](http://www.goodvibes.com).

## Tue 27

### New Langton Arts

SF Camerawork presents "FLESH," curated by Joanne Chan, featuring works by Jeanna Friscia, Jenny Rosenberg, Heather Sparks and Tina Wolfcombines. They use body parts as art, with sculptures, photos and digitized images focusing on skin, hair and meat. Free. Tue-Sat. noon-5pm.



Kevin McMahon and Richard Gallagher get friendly in *Snakebit* at New Conservatory Theatre. See Saturday.



Really Hung: Rinde Eckert and the Paul Drescher Ensemble perform *Ravenshead* at Theater Artaud. See Friday.

Thru Mar. 24. New Langton Arts, 1246 Folsom St. Info: 863-1001; [www.sfcamerawork.org](http://www.sfcamerawork.org)

### Fort Mason Center

"Ancient African Textiles in Contemporary Life" weaves traditional clothing and art into an exhibit reflecting its use in modern culture. Presented by the SF African American Historical & Cultural society. Thru Mar. 31. Fort Mason, Bldg. C-165. Info: 441-0640; [www.fortmason.org](http://www.fortmason.org).

## Wed 28

### Women's Building (1)

"Spring Fling," the Harvey Milk Institute's annual fundraising fest, featuring performance artists Lisi DeHaas, Gina Gold and comic Maureen Brownsey. Celebrate and raise bucks for this visionary queer cultural and educational outfit, which offers a catalog packed with courses tailored to the LGBT community, and which helps coordinate a multitude of GLBT cultural events in the city. Co-chaired by Carol Queen and Patrick and Matt

Califia-Rice. With special blessing by the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, led by Sister Kitty Catalyst. Silent auction of GLBT goodies. \$50-\$1,000. 6-9pm. 3543 18th St. (at Valencia). Info: 876-1112; [www.harveymilk.org](http://www.harveymilk.org).

### Women's Building (2)

"After Bash" a spoken-word benefit for the Harvey Milk Institute, follows "Spring Fling" with performances by Sister Spit's Sini Anderson, Marci Blackman, Lynnee Breedlove, Kris Kovic, drag kings Rat Bastard and Electro, and the band Flatcracker. \$15-\$30 sliding. 9-11pm. 3543 18th St. (at Valencia). Info: 876-1112; [www.harveymilk.org](http://www.harveymilk.org).

### Koret Auditorium, SF Main Public Library

In concert: Toussaint Saint Negritude, performance artist, poet, and clarinetist. An solo performance presented by the Afro-San Francisco Society of Poets. Free. 6:30pm. Main Public Library, 100 Larkin St. (at Grove), lower level. Info: 701-9734.

## Thu 1

### Harvey's

Join Team San Francisco in their Gay Games 2002 registration kick-off and fundraiser. Bay Area GLBT sports reps will eagerly recruit, while a live auction of sports and Gay Games items (emceed by Dr. Kathleen McGuire, Artistic Director of the SF Gay Men's Chorus) will aid Team SF's scholarship fund. 6:30pm. Harvey's, 500 Castro St. at 18th. Info: 522-2386. [www.teamsf.org](http://www.teamsf.org).

### 111 Minna Gallery

Opening reception: "Art for Mutants," which from its title suggests an X-Men-friendly door policy for those checking out the vibrantly offbeat paintings by KRK Ryden. Free. 6pm to late. Thru April. 111 Minna Gallery. Info: 974-1719.

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PROGRAM B (3/3 EVE, 3/4, 3/10 MAT): AILEY/  
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BY ELLINGTON; CRY, MUSIC BY ALICE COLTRANE,  
LAURA NYRO, AND CHUCK GRIFFIN; REVELATIONS

PROGRAM C (3/7, 3/9, 3/10 EVE): AILEY/  
BLUES SUITE, JAMISON/DOUBLE EXPOSURE,  
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# Cell Block rules Chicago

by Mister Marcus

The temperatures were in the single-digit area of the thermometer in Chicago all last weekend, but it didn't freeze up anyone's enthusiasm for the annual Leatherfest at the world famous Cell Block Bar, also known as "that leather heaven/haven on Upper Halsted St." in Chicago's leather community.

It all kicked off with a leather swap meet on Saturday afternoon, and a scrumptious brunch at Buddy's. Hot men roamed all over the place, bundled up but no less enticing.

Close to 400 people, including many out-of-towners, jammed into the bar on Saturday night, February 17 to see a whopping nine contestants vie for the opportunity to succeed Kevin Casey, Mr. Cell Block Leather 2000.

It was fun judging the contest with IML Chief Judge Thom Dombkowski, IML Mike Taylor, IML 95 Larry Everett and Kevin Clancy himself. We were obliged to judge eight hot men: John Becker, Ken D'Abbraccio, Eric Kugelman, Eric Leonard, Steve Longo, and Bob Miller.

Almost all of the contenders were seasoned leather men who knew the modus operandi of our lifestyle. They went through the usual paces, interviews, leather image, question and speech and of course, physique. Eye candy was very abundant.

As the master of ceremonies, Frank Nowicki handled the affair with aplomb—a feat given that at least three of his "play things" from previous appearances were on hand vying for his attention. There were a lot of laughs and the audience re-



The winners last Saturday night, February 17 at Chicago's world-famous Cell Block leather bar were, from left, Don Peterson, the first runner-up; Marc Rosenberg, Mr. Faultline Leather 2001; and Eric Kugelman, the second runner-up. Congratulations to all!

acted with enthusiasm and cheered for their favorite contestant.

During the proceedings, it was learned that Cell Block manager Patti Brown (Susan Lucci no more!) had at last won a Pantheon of Leather Award as the "Midwest Leather Person of the Year" at the contest being held in New Orleans this same weekend. Big whoops and hollers rang out. Patti had been nominated nine times—and finally got it.

IML Mike Taylor gave an inspiring speech which was short and to the point, garnering a great response. Outgoing Mr. Cell Block Leather, the stunningly handsome (and hung!) Kevin Casey gave a thankful farewell speech that was just a few seconds over six minutes—quite possibly the shortest step-down speech to date! After some of the longest farewell speeches on record last year, almost everyone who is passing the sash this year is careful not to get dished for blab-

bing on and on and hearing screams of "get the hook!"

When the scores were tallied, the announcement came around 2300. The second runner-up was Eric Kugelman, a local favorite; the first runner-up was the decidedly handsome Don Peterson of Northfield, Illinois. And Mr. Cell Block/Male Hide Leather 2001 is Marc Rosenberg.

Bedlam engulfed the house as the announcement was made. Marc is a 27-year old biker—his new bike was delivered at 10 a.m. that very morning—and has had vast experience in horse riding. A computer support analyst, Marc is definitely a leather man of the 21st century and should do well at IML next May.

#### Pantheonists and others

While all this was going on, a few hundred more leather people gathered in New Orleans for the annual Pantheon of Leather awards.

At my deadline, late Sunday night, I had received no results, next page ►

## EVENTURES IN LEATHER

### Thursday, February 22

Mr. May 2002 bare-chest calendar contest at the Powerhouse Bar begins at 2100. Win \$100 cash and become a fundraiser for the AIDS Emergency Fund.

At the Edge Bar, Bob Miller steps aside as Mr. Edge Leather 2000 when Mr. Edge Leather 2001 is selected. The winner gets \$300 cash and the chance to compete for the Mr. SF Leather title on March 9.

### Friday, February 23

Dirty Jake up at the Russian River area is hosting his monthly "Black Out" party at the Russian River Eagle. Lights out, no rules, Jake, the party boy!

### Weekend, February 23-25

The 15 Association celebrates another anniversary with action all weekend beginning with a banquet at the Cliff House on Friday, then a play party on Saturday night and another play party on Sunday afternoon. Call 673-0452 for locations and invitation. Congratulations and best wishes for continued playing.

### Saturday, February 24

Mr. SF Eagle John Bernal hosts a "Meet the Mr. SF Leather Contestants" beer/soda bust from 1600-1900. Come and meet the hopefuls and pick the one you'd like to see win the coveted title.

Also in Amsterdam, big weekend of debauchery and the Mr. Leather of All Holland contest on Saturday night. Jacques Happe knows how to throw a party!

If you find yourself in Spokane, Washington, you might want to head over to Rumors 415 Club for the Mr. Spokane Leather contest. The winner competes for Mr. Washington State Leather in Seattle at the end of March.

In Nashville, Tennessee, Mr. Ebony in Leather, Ric Morris, produces the Mr. Tennessee Leather-

man Contest at Illusions/Tool Box bar. Host hotel is the Clarion. For more info, email to MrTennesseeleather@aol.com.

### Sunday, February 25

Constantines MC throw a beer/soda bust at the Lone Star Saloon from 1600-2000 for \$7. No details at deadline.

### Week, February 27-March 4

Leather Pride Week in San Diego with action every night, including the Mr. San Diego Leather contest at Rich's on Saturday night, March 4.

### Wednesday, February 28

It's Leather Buddies at 933 Harrison. St. You know the rules. Leather, latex, uniforms, boots. No cologne. Hey, it's chic to reek! Your underarms will be sniffed. For more info, call 863-HEAD.

Dowager Empress Phyllis and Emperor Bobby Pace celebrate the 20th anniversary of their reigns at Lee Ona's on Turk Street, at 2000 hours. Surprise MC's.

### Weekend Mar. 2-4

New titles: Mr. and Ms. South Plains Leather will be staged in Dallas (at the Dallas Eagle) this weekend, with workshops, dungeon parties and all the usual stuff. I'll be judging, so you know you'll be the first to know the results.

### Friday, March 2

Mr. San Francisco Leather 2001 contest meet & greet party at the Powerhouse, at 2000 hours. Meet the contestants and the judges for the contest taking place on Friday, March 9. Judges will be announced next week right here! Press pass requests should be sent to: HatchetQ@aol.com.

### Friday, March 9

Mr. San Francisco Leather 2001 contest at Club Townsend. Tickets (\$25 adv.; \$30 door) on sale at Auto Erotica, Daddy's and Mister S.



# Lived to the hilt

## The life of Al Parker

by John F. Karr

When Al Parker was first presented to the public, in a series of black-and-white photographs from Colt Studios, it was with an apology. "This is not what we normally give you, but..."

The apology wasn't necessary, because Parker was an immediate hit. It was thoroughly ironic, since Parker lived his personal life and pursued his career as sex-film superstar without apology. Tastefully, and with an innate modesty that matched the blush in his cheek and pleasing manner — but nonetheless, to the big-dicked hilt.

It's Parker's unconflicted, unapologetic sexuality and life force that make for such entertaining reading in *Clone, The Life and Legacy of Al Parker, Gay Superstar* by Roger Edmonson (Alyson, \$13.95). Following his *Boy in the Sand*, a biography of Casey Donovan, this all-too-short book secures Edmonson's niche as the porn-star biographer. Although surprisingly well-researched, Edmonson's first book remained a sedate recitation, basically due to the shortage of first-hand testimony from its subject. There's no such constraint in *Clone*, which frequently reads like autobiography. In complement to the hours of personal videotapes made by Parker and his lover, which documented their domestic life and travels, *Clone* was shaped in large part by Parker's unpublished autobiographical notes, which he'd titled *Stranger Than Fiction*. It's a treasure trove of material that frequently allows Edmonson's earnest voice to disappear, and permits Parker's enthusiastic energy to drive the story.

Parker had commonplace ori-

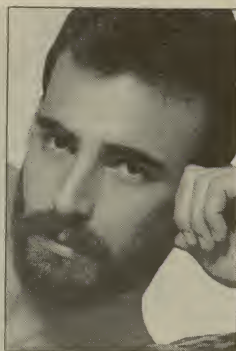
gins. He was born as Drew Okun in 1952 to a solidly middle-class family who lived in a smaller city a short distance from Boston; he had a typical childhood. Yet as he came of age, his life became so incredible that if it were filmed, people might find it unbelievable. It takes off in the 1970s, when gay men were asserting a newly found masculinity, and for which Parker became the poster boy. It's an alternative *Boogie Nights*, with a glorious rise, the high-life lived, and a tragic downfall. This time, the sad ending wasn't due to drugs, but to AIDS.

Parker was 17 when he first realized he was gay. He found a bruised porno magazine alongside the railroad tracks outside of town, and it signaled his attraction to men. In a strange foreshadowing, it was a Colt publication. That same year, he had his first sexual encounter with another man, when he was raped at knifepoint. Not long after, he attended the famed Woodstock concert, but missed nearly all of its music-making while making out inside a hearse with a particularly masculine, hirsute and well-hung Hell's Angel.

### Dating fame

Moving to California, he worked in the Playboy Mansion, became an intimate of Hugh Hefner, was outed when he appeared on *The Dating Game*, and was introduced to Rip Colt. With porn stardom thrust upon him, he starred in 21 films, ultimately founding his own company, Surge Studios, where he became an accomplished director. Along the way, the book amusingly recounts his being served up to George Cukor, and failing to click on an assignment with Rudolf Nureyev.

Edmonson takes care in setting up the temper of the times, so that



Porn star Al Parker

we can understand the background for Parker's success, but beyond noting the porn industry's greed and callousness, he doesn't explore its darker side. Likewise noted but left for the reader to ruminate about are some troubling aspects of Parker's career, like what was behind his resentment of the Gage Brothers, or how, once the youthful high spirits and good times were past, Parker's compulsion to continue was in truth some sort of sex addiction. And while noting that psychedelics and marijuana and cocaine were used, Edmonson never connects their effect to the story of how a boy's sex drive can become the informing aspect of his life. Did Parker's teenage rape inform the later depiction of so much bizarre sexual-

ity? Although Edmonson has set things out well, I kept wishing he'd probe a little deeper. Likewise, as an avid pornhound, I would have appreciated more information about both the making and content of Parker's films. The man is, after all, reflected in his work, and there's not much assessment here of the visual legacy Parker has left us.

Perhaps that's the task of another author. What Edmonson has delivered is enough of the facts to make *Clone* an engrossing book. What an amazing life Al Parker had. ▼

## Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

but do know that besides Patti Brown winning for the Midwest Region, the irrepressible George Hester in New Orleans won for the Southeast Region.

In San Francisco, the Inter-Club Fund staged their annual Motorcycle Awards and show at the California Club on Saturday night, February 17. Again, no results were in at my deadline, except that the Mr. San Francisco Leather 2000 contest won for best leather event, and the Bare Chest Calendar Auctions in both September and January won in the Best Non-Leather Event (i.e., beer/soda bust). This is the third year that Mr. SF Leather has won this award — and all three times produced by various people. Bravo! Hopefully, I'll have the other winners' names by my next deadline.

The last of the bar leather-title contests takes place at the Edge this coming Thursday, February 22. Unfortunately, the bare chest calendar contest to choose Mr. May 2002 is taking place at the same time, but some how, some way, I'll get a full report to you.

The roster of aspirants for Mr. SF Leather 2001 is growing and, before it's over, A Taste of Leather, Stompers and maybe even Mister S will field contestants for the event.

While I'm on the subject, Mr. SF Eagle John Bernal is staging a "Meet the Contestants" beer/soda

bust at the Eagle from 1600-1900 on Saturday, February 24, so if you want to see who is in the running up to that time, be there! No details were furnished at my deadline.

In the coming weeks, at least a dozen or so more leather contests

will be taking place all over the country. You'll be the first to know the results here, of course, and don't forget to check out [www.leatherpage.com](http://www.leatherpage.com) for news from around the world on the leather nation. ▼

## COCKTAIL HOUR

# High heels

by Sweet Lips

Don't want to watch that movie musical again, this time with subtitles? Don't we all know the words already? *The Heels Are Alive* is the theme this week for Cockatelia's sing-along *Til Friday* show this Friday, February 23 at the Club Rendez-Vous. Not even a classic musical is sacred to Tilly and her girls as they hammer Rodgers and dodge Hammerstein. The crazy *Til Friday* showtimes are 10:30 p.m. and Midnight every other Friday night.

Mardi Gras fever: Our reigning Grand Duke Greg Osmon and Grand Duchess Angelina Josephina Manicotti present a Mardi Gras celebration on Saturday, February 24 starting at 3 p.m. at where else, the Club R-V. Gift bags will be on sale to raise money for the Ducal Monarch's Charity Fund, and there will be great Cajun food, jazz music and some drag performers. \$100 cash will be given to the best costume (or lack thereof), and beads thrown from the Club R-V's very own New Orleans-style wrought iron balcony — but only if you show us something.

Coronation week is soon here, and the town will swell with Imperials from all over the country. Mame and the gang from Portland will be here, having their own little party at the Club R-V on Sat., March 3, starting at 11 a.m. Steve Rascher hosts the 14th Annual Portland Party with a scrumptious brunch catered by Dennis "Quiche for Queens" Tyler. Catch the crowning of the new Emperor and Empress of Alcatraz. ▼

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# The big drip

## 'Pollock' by the numbers

by Will Shank

Director Ed Harris puts actor Ed Harris through the paces in *Pollock*, the bio-pic of abstract painter Jackson Pollock (1912-1956). As the tormented artist, Harris the actor rants and raves, he pees into the fireplace during a fancy party, he drives blind drunk and barefoot, and he pays for groceries with his paintings. In later scenes, the former Mean Marine of *The Right Stuff*, who has kept his six-pack abs ever since, grows an incredible beer belly that appears to be real, à la De Niro in *Raging Bull*. The two-hour film appears in theaters nationwide this week, although limited early release before the end of the year qualified it for Oscar nominations, and Harris and his team are serious contenders for Hollywood's top prizes.

Harris' sincerity about the project is clear, and his research on the artist, his life and his work reportedly spanned the past decade. The creator of an innovative

method of application of paint to canvas, the drip painting, Pollock exploded onto the canvas of the New York art world in the 1940s. His revolutionary technique challenged the traditionally-held view of two-dimensional art as being about anything other than the materials it is painted with. Pollock's work defines paint-for-paint's-sake, and his audacity made him the first American art star. *Life* magazine, that bastion of pop culture, called him "the greatest living painter in the United States" in 1949, and helped to create his legend.

There's one big problem with *Pollock*, as there is with so many artist bio-pics: Pollock's life was fairly unremarkable, even if his work is not. The Wyoming-born painter is first seen wandering the streets of Manhattan, trying to figure out how to make a living in Post-Depression New York while camped out with his brother and long-suffering sister-in-law. He is just short of loathsome, self-absorbed and inarticulate, and he is

page 41 ►



Ed Harris plays Abstract Expressionist painter Jackson Pollock

Dennie Todd

## Being Jackson Pollock

### Academy Award nominee Ed Harris

by Tim Nason

Less than a week before Academy Award nominations were announced, I sat down with actor/director Ed Harris in a suite at the Four Seasons Hotel in Boston to discuss the years that he spent working on his pet project, *Pollock*, the biographical film about the Abstract Expressionist painter Jackson Pollock, whose career spanned three decades, the 1930s through the '50s.

Harris is no stranger to the Academy Awards. He was most recently nominated for his supporting role in *The Truman Show*. Earlier, Harris was nominated for a

Best Supporting Actor Oscar for *Apollo 13*.

"I don't expect anything for my work on *Pollock*," Harris said about the possibility of being nominated for Best Actor. "I am very proud of the film, and if it is recognized that would be great. The film is a very small and personal film, and any recognition of it would be great exposure for it."

Not only did Harris get a Best Actor nomination for playing Pollock, his co-star, Marcia Gay Harden, who plays Lee Krasner, Pollock's wife, also got a nod. Not bad for Harris' directorial debut.

"When I began to read about Pollock, I knew nothing about him. That was over 10 years ago," Harris explained. "What I found out was that Pollock was a controversial, revolutionary man who pushed modern art in a different direction. He certainly had a difficult time being on this planet. He was a recluse, inarticulate, bizarre when it came to interacting with anyone, including family, friends and colleagues, and he was an alcoholic."

Harris decided to direct the story about the painter's life, in addition to portraying him, because he had spent so much time studying the character.

"In 1994, I had a painting studio built on my property so that I could paint bigger things," Harris said. He began to paint to get into the character, something he had no previous desire to do. "I had to trust something had seeped into my bones that would allow me to portray Pollock honestly."

#### Weighty role

Doing the opposite of what Tom Hanks did for *Cast Away*, Harris gained over 30 pounds. "Pollock gained a lot of weight towards the end of his life, and I didn't want to wear a pad," Harris said of his decision to gain the weight.

"I took a six-week break, and just ate and ate and ate."

Harris, a charismatic, charming individual, was not as big as I expected him to be. After all the action films such as *The Rock* and the upcoming *Enemy at the Gates* I had seen him in, I expected him to

be this imposing figure. Instead, he was this gentle man with more of a swimmer's build than a wrestler's, and not very tall. Perhaps 5' 10".

"I've never been interested in exploiting Pollock," Harris said. "There were times I would say to myself, 'Why are you making a movie about this guy? Let him rest in peace.' But then I realized that was only a desire to leave myself in peace. It's tricky, but I never wanted to pretend to be Pollock. I wanted to be Ed Harris using all of his tools as an actor and as a person to allow Pollock's experience on this earth to touch me, inspire me and lead me to an honest, true performance."

While Miramax, with the five Academy Award nominations it snagged for *Chocolat* and two for *Malena*, is still the queen of independent Oscar films, Sony Classics, the studio behind *Pollock*, is the king of independents this year with 12 nominations: 10 for *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*, and two for *Pollock*.

Besides *Pollock* being a film that was close to his heart, Harris also had the opportunity to work with someone who is close to his heart. His wife, the actress Amy Madigan, plays the vociferous Peggy Guggenheim. "It was great being able to work with my wife," he said. "I am also lucky to have gotten Val Kilmer to play William de Kooning."

Harris admitted that many of the films he makes he does only for the money. "Let me be honest," he said. "I invested a lot of my own money into *Pollock*. I borrowed money from my family to get it made. So when it comes to making movies like *The Rock* or *Enemy at the Gates*, it's purely for the money. However, there is a movie I am going to be making soon that I'm sure I will be very proud of." The movie he speaks about is *The Hours*, based on gay author Michael Cunningham's award-winning 1999 novel. The film will also star Meryl Streep as a lesbian, and Nicole Kidman. "I play the best friend of Meryl Streep's character. He is dying of AIDS." Perhaps a fourth Academy Award nomination for him next year? ▼



Dennie Todd

Amy Madigan as collector Peggy Guggenheim in *Pollock*

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**VIDEX<sup>®</sup> EC**  
(didanosine) delayed-release capsules  
enteric-coated beadlets

Please see following page for brief summary of prescribing information, including boxed warnings.

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## VIDEX<sup>®</sup> EC (didanosine)

VIDEX<sup>®</sup> EC (didanosine) Delayed-Release Capsules  
Enteric-Coated Beadlets

Brief Summary of Prescribing Information, 12/00. For complete prescribing information, please consult full clinical pharmacology circular.

### WARNING

**FATAL AND NONFATAL PANCREATITIS HAVE OCCURRED DURING THERAPY WITH DIDANOSINE USED ALONE OR IN COMBINATION REGIMENS IN BOTH TREATMENT-NAIVE AND TREATMENT-EXPERIENCED PATIENTS, REGARDLESS OF DEGREE OF IMMUNOSUPPRESSION. VIDEX EC SHOULD BE SUSPENDED IN PATIENTS WITH SUSPECTED PANCREATITIS AND DISCONTINUED IN PATIENTS WITH CONFIRMED PANCREATITIS (SEE WARNINGS).**

**LACTIC ACIDOSIS AND SEVERE HEPATOMEGALY WITH STEATOSIS, INCLUDING FATAL CASES, HAVE BEEN REPORTED WITH THE USE OF NUCLEOSIDE ANALOGUES ALONE OR IN COMBINATION, INCLUDING DIDANOSINE AND OTHER ANTIRETROVIRALS. FATAL LACTIC ACIDOSIS HAS BEEN REPORTED IN PREGNANT WOMEN WHO RECEIVED THE COMBINATION OF DIDANOSINE AND STAVUDINE WHICH SHOULD BE USED WITH CAUTION DURING PREGNANCY AND IS RECOMMENDED ONLY IF THE POTENTIAL BENEFIT CLEARLY OUTWEIGHS THE POTENTIAL RISK. (SEE WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, PREGNANCY.)**

### INDICATIONS AND USAGE

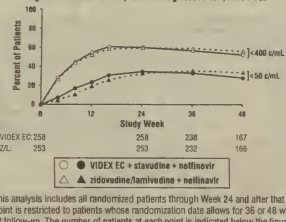
VIDEX EC (didanosine) in combination with other antiretroviral agents is indicated for the treatment of HIV-1 infection in adults whose management requires once-daily administration of didanosine or an alternative didanosine formulation. (See Clinical Studies, PRECAUTIONS, Frequency of Dosing, and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION.)

There are limited data to date to support the long-term durability of response with a once-daily dosing regimen of didanosine.

**Clinical Studies:** Once-daily dosing of didanosine produces a pharmacokinetic profile that is substantially different from that observed with twice-daily dosing (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY in full prescribing information). Further, VIDEX EC and the VIDEX (didanosine) buffered formulation produce substantially different pharmacokinetic profiles when dosed once daily. Therefore, controlled clinical trials were conducted with both formulations to evaluate the safety and efficacy of once-daily dosing of didanosine. There is no available long-term clinical data that directly compares the efficacy of the two once-daily didanosine formulations. A small clinical trial that was conducted to address this issue was not interpretable due to the small number of patients who completed the study.

**Once-Daily VIDEX EC Study:** Study A454-152 is an ongoing, 48-week, randomized, open-label study comparing VIDEX EC (400 mg once daily) plus stavudine (40 mg twice daily plus zalcitabine 750 mg three times daily) versus zalcitabine (750 mg three times daily) plus stavudine (40 mg twice daily plus lamivudine 150 mg twice daily). Combination tablets plus nevirapine (750 mg three times daily) in 511 treatment-naïve patients, with a mean CD4 cell count of 411 cells/mm<sup>3</sup> (range 38 to 1105 cells/mm<sup>3</sup>) and a mean plasma HIV-1 RNA of 4.71 log copies/mL (range 2.0 to 5.9 log copies/mL). Patients were primarily males (72%) and Caucasians (53%) with a mean age of 35 years (range 18 to 73 years). The percentages of patients with HIV RNA <400 and <50 copies/mL, and not meeting any criteria for treatment failure (ie, virologic failure, discontinuation for any reason, or AIDS-defining event) through 48 weeks are shown in Figure 1.

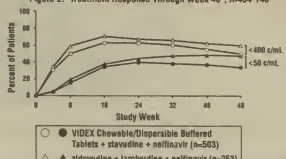
Figure 1. Treatment Response Through Week 48\*, A454-152



\* This analysis includes all randomized patients through Week 24 and after that point is restricted to patients whose randomization data allows for 36 or 48 weeks of follow-up. The number of patients at each point is indicated below the figure.

**Once-Daily VIDEX Buffered Tablet Study:** Study A454-145 was a randomized, open-label, multicenter study comparing treatment with VIDEX Chewable/Dispersible Beadlets (400 mg once daily) plus stavudine (40 mg twice daily) and nevirapine (750 mg three times daily) versus zalcitabine (750 mg three times daily) plus stavudine (40 mg twice daily) and nevirapine (750 mg three times daily). In 750 treatment-naïve patients, with a mean CD4 cell count of 388 cells/mm<sup>3</sup> (range 80 to 1568 cells/mm<sup>3</sup>) and a mean plasma HIV-1 RNA of 4.89 log copies/mL (range 2.6 to 5.9 log copies/mL) at baseline. The percentages of patients with HIV RNA <400 and <50 copies/mL, and not meeting any criteria for treatment failure through 48 weeks are shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2. Treatment Response Through Week 48\*, A454-145



\* Percent of patients at each time point who have HIV RNA <400 and <50 copies/mL, are on their original study medication (except stavudine/zalcitabine switches), and have not experienced an AIDS-defining event. For the differences between treatment groups at 48 weeks, p < 0.05 by Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel test.

### CONTRAINDICATION

VIDEX EC is contraindicated in patients with previously demonstrated clinically significant hypersensitivity to any component of the formulation.

### WARNINGS

**1. Pancreatitis**  
**FATAL AND NONFATAL PANCREATITIS HAVE OCCURRED DURING THERAPY WITH DIDANOSINE USED ALONE OR IN COMBINATION REGIMENS IN BOTH TREATMENT-NAIVE AND TREATMENT-EXPERIENCED PATIENTS, REGARDLESS OF DEGREE OF IMMUNOSUPPRESSION. VIDEX EC SHOULD BE SUSPENDED IN PATIENTS WITH SIGNS OR SYMPTOMS OF PANCREATITIS AND DISCONTINUED IN PATIENTS WITH CONFIRMED PANCREATITIS. PATIENTS TREATED WITH VIDEX EC IN COMBINATION WITH STAVUDINE, WITH OR WITHOUT HYDROXYUREA, MAY BE AT INCREASED RISK FOR PANCREATITIS.**

When treatment with life-sustaining drugs known to cause pancreatic toxicity is required, suspension of VIDEX EC therapy is recommended. In patients with risk factors for pancreatitis, VIDEX EC should be used with extreme caution and only if clearly indicated. Patients with advanced HIV infection, especially the elderly, are at increased risk of pancreatitis and should be followed closely. Patients with renal impairment may be at greater risk for pancreatitis if treated without dose adjustment.

The frequency of pancreatitis is dose related. In phase 3 studies with buffered formulations of didanosine, incidence ranged from 1% to 10% with doses higher than are currently recommended and 1% to 7% with recommended dose.

**2. Lactic Acidosis/Severe Hepatomegaly with Steatosis**

Lactic acidosis and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis, including fatal cases, have been reported with the use of nucleoside analogues alone or in combination, including didanosine and other antiretrovirals. A majority of these cases have been in women. Obesity and prolonged nucleoside exposure may be risk factors. Fatal lactic acidosis has been reported in pregnant women who received the combination of didanosine and stavudine with other antiretroviral agents. The combination of didanosine and stavudine should be used with caution during pregnancy and is recommended only if the potential benefit clearly outweighs the potential risk (see PRECAUTIONS, Pregnancy). Particular caution should be exercised when administering VIDEX EC to any patient with known risk factors for liver disease; however, cases have also been reported in patients with no known risk factors. Treatment with VIDEX EC should be suspended in any patient who develops clinical or laboratory findings suggestive of lactic acidosis or pronounced hepatotoxicity (which may include hepatomegaly and steatosis even in the absence of marked transaminase elevations).

**3. Renal Changes and Optic Neuritis**

Renal changes and optic neuritis have been reported in patients taking didanosine. Periodic renal examinations should be considered for patients receiving VIDEX EC. (See ADVERSE REACTIONS.)

### PRECAUTIONS

**Frequency of Dosing:** VIDEX EC should only be administered once daily. There are no data on the use of VIDEX EC dosed more frequently than once daily.

There are limited data to date to support the long-term durability of response with a once-daily dosing regimen of didanosine. Therefore, the preferred didanosine dosing regimen is twice daily with a VIDEX buffered formulation. Once-daily dosing with VIDEX EC may be considered only in patients whose management requires once-daily administration of didanosine or an alternative didanosine formulation (see Clinical Studies). Consult the prescribing information for VIDEX buffered formulations and Pediatric Powder for Oral Solution for information on twice-daily dosing.

### HOW TO USE

VIDEX EC (didanosine) should be taken on an empty stomach.

**Peripheral Neuropathy:** Peripheral neuropathy, manifested by numbness, tingling, or pain in the hands or feet, has been reported in patients receiving didanosine. Peripheral neuropathy has occurred more frequently in patients with advanced HIV disease, in patients with a history of neuropathy, or in patients being treated with neurotoxic drug therapy, including stavudine (see ADVERSE REACTIONS).

### General

**Patients with Renal Impairment:** Patients with renal impairment (creatinine clearance <60 mL/min) may be at greater risk of toxicity from didanosine due to decreased drug clearance (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY in full prescribing information). A dose reduction is recommended in these patients (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

**Patients with Hepatic Impairment:** It is unknown if hepatic impairment significantly affects didanosine pharmacokinetics. Therefore, these patients should be monitored closely for evidence of didanosine toxicity.

**Hyperuricemia:** Didanosine has been associated with asymptomatic hyperuricemia; treatment suspension may be necessary if clinical measures aimed at reducing uric acid levels fail.

**Information for Patients (see Patient Information Leaflet in full prescribing information):** Patients should be informed that a serious toxicity of didanosine, used alone and in combination regimens, is pancreatitis, which may be fatal.

Patients should also be aware that peripheral neuropathy, manifested by numbness, tingling, or pain in hands or feet, may develop during therapy with VIDEX EC. Patients should be counseled that peripheral neuropathy occurs with greater frequency in patients with advanced HIV disease or a history of peripheral neuropathy, and that dose modification and/or discontinuation of VIDEX EC may be required if toxicity develops.

Patients should be informed that when didanosine is used in combination with other agents with similar toxicities, the incidence of adverse events may be higher than when didanosine is used alone. These patients should be followed closely.

Patients should be cautioned about the use of medications or other substances, including alcohol, that may exacerbate VIDEX EC toxicities.

Patients should be informed that the preferred didanosine dosing regimen is twice daily with a VIDEX (didanosine) buffered formulation because there are limited data to support the long-term durability of response with a once-daily regimen.

VIDEX EC is not a cure for HIV infection, and patients may continue to develop HIV-associated illnesses, including opportunistic infection. Therefore, patients should remain under the care of a physician using VIDEX EC. Patients should be advised that VIDEX EC therapy has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Patients should be informed that the long-term effects of VIDEX EC are unknown at this time.

**Drug Interactions (see also CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, Drug Interactions in full prescribing information):** Drug interactions that have been established based on drug interaction studies are listed with the pharmacokinetic results in CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, Drug Interactions (Tables 3-5) in full prescribing information. The clinical recommendations based on the results of these studies are listed in Table 1.

**Table 1**  
**Established Drug Interactions Based on Studies with Buffered Formulations of Didanosine and Expected to Occur with VIDEX EC**

**Coadministration Not Recommended Based on Drug Interaction Studies**  
(see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, Drug Interactions in full prescribing information)

**Drug** **Effect** **Clinical Comment**

allopurinol  $\downarrow$  didanosine concentration Coadministration not recommended.

**Alteration in Dose or Regimen Recommended Based on Drug Interaction Studies**  
(see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, Drug Interactions in full prescribing information)

**Drug** **Effect** **Clinical Comment**

ganciclovir  $\downarrow$  didanosine concentration Appropriate doses for this combination, with respect to efficacy and safety, have not been established.

methadone  $\downarrow$  didanosine concentration Appropriate doses for this combination, with respect to efficacy and safety, have not been established.

$\uparrow$  indicates increase;  $\downarrow$  indicates decrease.

**Table 2**  
**Predicted Drug Interactions with VIDEX EC**

**Use with Caution, Risk of Adverse Reactions May Be Increased**

**Drug Class** **Effect** **Clinical Comment**

Drugs that may cause pancreatic toxicity  $\uparrow$  risk of pancreatitis. Use only with extreme caution.\*

Neurotoxic drugs  $\uparrow$  risk of neuropathy. Use with caution.\*

$\uparrow$  indicates increase.

\* Only if other drugs are not available and if clearly indicated. If treatment with life-sustaining drugs that cause pancreatic toxicity is required, suspension of VIDEX EC is recommended (see WARNINGS, Pancreatitis).

**PRECAUTIONS: Peripheral Neuropathy.**

**Carcinogenesis and Mutagenesis:** Lifetime carcinogenicity studies were conducted in mice and rats for 22 and 24 months, respectively. In the mouse study, initial doses of 120, 300, and 600 mg/kg/day for males and 120, 300, and 600 mg/kg/day for females and 120, 300, and 600 mg/kg/day for males. The two higher doses exceeded the maximally tolerated dose in females and the high dose exceeded the maximally tolerated dose in males. The low dose in females represented 0.68-fold maximum human exposure and the intermediate dose in males represented 1.7-fold maximum human exposure based on relative AUC comparisons. In the rat study, initial doses were 100, 250, and 500 mg/kg/day, and the high dose was lowered to 50 mg/kg/day after 18 months. The upper dose in male and female rats represented 3-fold maximum human exposure.

Didanosine induced no significant increase in neoplastic lesions in mice or rats at maximally tolerated doses.

Didanosine was positive in the following genetic toxicity assays: 1) the Escherichia coli tester strain W302 overt bacterial mutagenicity assay, and 2) the in vitro chromosomal aberrations assay in cultured human peripheral lymphocytes (4), 3) the in vitro chromosomal aberrations assay in Chinese Hamster Lung cells; and 5) the Salmonella typhimurium assay in rat or rat muscle in vivo micronucleus assays.

**Pregnancy, Reproduction and Fertility:** Pregnancy "Category B." Reproduction studies have been performed in rats and rabbits at doses up to 12 and 14.2 times the estimated human exposure (based on plasma levels), respectively, and have revealed no evidence of impaired fertility or harm to the fetus due to didanosine. At approximately 12 times the estimated human exposure, didanosine was slightly toxic to female rats and their pups during mid and late lactation. These rats showed reduced food intake and body weight gains but the physical and functional development of the offspring was not impaired and there were no major changes in the F2 generation. A study in rats showed that didanosine and/or its metabolites are transferred to the fetus through the placenta. Animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response.

There are no adequate and well-controlled studies of didanosine in pregnant women. Didanosine should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk.

Fetal lactic acidosis has been reported in pregnant women who received the combination of didanosine and stavudine with other antiretroviral agents. It is unclear if pregnancy augments the risk of lactic acidosis/hepatic steatosis syndrome reported in non-pregnant individuals receiving nucleoside analogues (see WARNINGS, Lactic Acidosis/Severe Hepatomegaly with Steatosis). The combination of didanosine and stavudine should be used with caution during pregnancy and is recommended only if the potential benefit clearly outweighs the potential risk. Health care providers caring for HIV-infected pregnant women receiving didanosine should be alert for early diagnosis of lactic acidosis/hepatic steatosis syndrome.

**Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry:** No data on maternal-fetal outcomes of pregnant women exposed to didanosine and other antiretroviral agents. An Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry has been established. Physicians are encouraged to register patients by calling 1-800-253-4263.

**Nursing Mothers:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommended that HIV-infected mothers not breast-feed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV. A study in rats showed that following oral administration, didanosine and/or its metabolites were excreted into the milk of lactating rats. It is not known if didanosine is excreted in human milk. Because of both the potential for HIV transmission and the potential for serious adverse reactions in nursing infants, mothers should be instructed not to breast-feed if they are receiving VIDEX EC.

**Pediatric Use:** The safety and efficacy of VIDEX EC in pediatric patients have not been established. Please consult the complete prescribing information for VIDEX buffered formulations and Pediatric Powder for Oral Solution for dosage and administration of didanosine to pediatric patients.

**Geriatric Use:** In an Expanded Access Program using a buffered formulation of didanosine for the treatment of advanced HIV infection, patients aged 65 years and older had a higher frequency of pancreatitis (10%) than younger patients (5%) (see WARNINGS). Clinical studies of didanosine, including those for VIDEX EC, did not include sufficient numbers of subjects aged 65 years and older to determine whether they respond differently than younger subjects. Didanosine is known to be substantially excreted by the kidney, and the risk of toxic reactions to this drug may be greater in patients with impaired renal function. Because elderly patients are more likely to have decreased renal function, care should be taken in dose selection. In addition, renal function should be monitored and dose adjustments should be made accordingly (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION, Dose Adjustment).

**ADVERSE REACTIONS**

A SERIOUS TOXICITY OF DIDANOSINE IS PANCREATITIS, WHICH MAY BE FATAL (see WARNINGS). OTHER IMPORTANT TOXICITIES INCLUDE LACTIC ACIDOSIS/SEVERE HEPATOMEGALY WITH STEATOSIS, RENAL CHANGES AND OPTIC NEURITIS, AND PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY (see WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS).

When didanosine is used in combination with other agents with similar toxicities, the incidence of these toxicities may be higher than when didanosine is used alone. Thus, patients treated with VIDEX EC in combination with stavudine, with or without hydroxyurea, may be at increased risk for pancreatitis, which may be fatal, and hepatotoxicity (see WARNINGS). Patients treated with VIDEX EC in combination with stavudine may also be at increased risk for peripheral neuropathy (see PRECAUTIONS).

Studies of VIDEX EC and a buffered didanosine formulation yielded comparable safety profiles for both formulations. Selected clinical adverse events that occurred in clinical studies of didanosine dosed once daily in combination with other antiretroviral agents are provided in Table 3.

Table 3  
Selected Clinical Adverse Events from Combination Studies of Didanosine Dosed Once Daily

Adverse Events	Percent of Patients*			
	VIDEX EC + stavudine + nevirapine n=253	zidovudine/lamivudine + nevirapine n=250	VIDEX Buffered Tablets + stavudine + nevirapine n=452	zidovudine + lamivudine + nevirapine n=248
Diarrhea	54	56	70	50
Nausea	50	46	61	49
Headache	20	16	21	30
Peripheral Neuropathy	20	8	26	6
Symptoms/Neuropathy	13	18	12	14
Vomiting	13	18	12	14
Rash	13	10	1	15
Pancreatitis (see below)	<1	<1	1	<1

\* Percentages based on treated patients.

\* Median duration of treatment 43 weeks in the VIDEX EC-stavudine-nevirapine group and 39 weeks in the zidovudine/lamivudine-nevirapine group.

\* Median duration of treatment 48 weeks.

\* Zidovudine/lamivudine combination tablet.

\* This event was not observed in this study arm.

In clinical trials using a buffered formulation of didanosine, pancreatitis resulting in death was observed in one patient who received didanosine plus stavudine plus nevirapine, one patient who received didanosine plus stavudine plus indinavir, and one patient who received didanosine plus stavudine plus indinavir plus hydroxyurea. In an early access program, pancreatitis resulting in death was observed in one patient who received VIDEX EC (didanosine) plus stavudine plus hydroxyurea plus indinavir plus didanosine plus stavudine (see WARNINGS).

The frequency of pancreatitis is dose related. In phase 3 studies with buffered formulations of didanosine, incidence ranged from 1% to 10% with doses higher than are currently recommended and 1% to 7% with recommended dose.

Selected laboratory abnormalities that occurred in clinical studies of didanosine dosed once daily in combination with other antiretroviral agents are shown in Table 4.

Table 4  
Selected Laboratory Abnormalities from Combination Studies of Didanosine Dosed Once Daily

Parameter	Percent of Patients*			
	VIDEX EC + stavudine + nevirapine n=253	zidovudine/lamivudine + nevirapine n=250	VIDEX Buffered Tablets + stavudine + nevirapine n=452	zidovudine + lamivudine + nevirapine n=248
Grades	3-4	3-4	3-4	3-4
SGOT (AST)	4	4	17	3
SGPT (ALT)	4	4	20	3
Lipase	3	18	8	7
Bilirubin	<1	<1	<1	<1

\* Percentages based on treated patients.

\* Median duration of treatment 43 weeks in the VIDEX EC-stavudine-nevirapine group and 39 weeks in the zidovudine/lamivudine-nevirapine group.

\* Median duration of treatment 48 weeks.

\* Zidovudine/lamivudine combination tablet.

\* >5 x ULN for SGOT and SGPT, >2.1 x ULN for lipase, and >2.6 x ULN for bilirubin (ULN = upper limit of normal).

**Observed During Clinical Practice:**

The following events have been identified during postapproval use of didanosine buffered formulations. Because they are reported voluntarily from a population of unknown size, estimates of frequency cannot be made. These events have been chosen for inclusion due to their seriousness, frequency of reporting, causal connection to didanosine, or a combination of these factors.

**Body as a Whole:** abdominal pain, alopecia, anaphylactoid reaction, asthenia, chills/fever, and pain.

**Digestive Disorders:** anorexia, dyspepsia, and flatulence.

**Exocrine Gland Disorders:** pancreatitis (including fatal cases) (see WARNINGS), sialadenitis, parotid gland enlargement, dry mouth, and dry eyes.

**Hematologic Disorders:** anemia, leukopenia, and thrombocytopenia.

**Liver:** lactic acidosis and hepatic steatosis (see WARNINGS), hepatitis and liver failure.

**Metabolic Disorders:** diabetes mellitus, elevated serum alkaline phosphatase level, elevated serum amylase level, elevated serum gamma-glutamyltransferase level, elevated serum uric acid level, hypoglycemia, and hyperuricemia.

**Musculoskeletal Disorders:** myalgia (with or without increases in creatine kinase), rhabdomyolysis including acute renal failure and hemodialysis, arthralgia, and myopathy.

**Ophthalmologic Disorders:** Retinal degeneration and optic neuritis (see WARNINGS).

**OVERDOSEAGE**

There is no known antidote for didanosine overdose. In phase 1 studies, in which buffered formulations of didanosine were initially administered at doses ten times the currently recommended dose, toxicities included: pancreatitis, peripheral neuropathy, diarrhea, hyperuricemia, and hepatic dysfunction. Didanosine is not dialyzable by peritoneal dialysis, although there is some clearance by hemodialysis (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, Pharmacokinetics in full prescribing information).

**DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**

**Adults:** VIDEX EC should be administered on an empty stomach.

VIDEX EC Delayed-Release Capsules should be swallowed whole.

The recommended daily dose is dependent on body weight and is administered as one capsule given on a once-daily schedule as outlined in Table 5.

Table 5  
Dosing of VIDEX EC Delayed-Release Capsules

Patient Weight	Dosage
<60 kg	400 mg once daily
60-70 kg	250 mg once daily
>70 kg	250 mg once daily

**Pediatric Patients:** VIDEX EC has not been studied in pediatric patients. Please consult the complete prescribing information for VIDEX (didanosine) buffered formulations and Pediatric Powder for Oral Solution for dosage and administration of didanosine to pediatric patients.

**Dose Adjustment:**

Clinical and laboratory signs suggestive of pancreatitis should prompt dose suspension and careful evaluation of the possibility of pancreatitis. VIDEX EC use should be discontinued in patients with confirmed pancreatitis (see WARNINGS).

Based on data with buffered didanosine formulations, patients with symptoms of peripheral neuropathy may tolerate a reduced dose of VIDEX EC after resolution of the symptoms of peripheral neuropathy upon drug interruption. If neuropathy recurs after resumption of VIDEX EC, permanent discontinuation of VIDEX EC should be considered.

**Renal Impairment:** Dosing recommendations for VIDEX EC and VIDEX buffered formulations are different for patients with renal impairment. Please consult the complete prescribing information on administration of VIDEX buffered formulations to patients with renal impairment.

In adult patients with renal impairment, the dose of VIDEX EC should be adjusted to compensate for the slower rate of elimination. The recommended doses and dosing intervals of VIDEX EC in adult patients with renal insufficiency are presented in Table 6.

Table 6  
Recommended Dosing of VIDEX EC in Renal Impairment by Body Weight\*

Creatinine Clearance (mL/min)	Dosage
>80	400 mg once daily
30-80	250 mg once daily
10-29	125 mg once daily
<10	125 mg once daily

\* Based on studies using a buffered formulation of didanosine.

\* Not suitable for use in patients <60 kg with CL<sub>CR</sub> <10 mL/min.

An alternate formulation of didanosine should be used.

**Patients Requiring Continuous Ambulatory Peritoneal Dialysis (CAPD) or Hemodialysis:** For patients requiring CAPD or hemodialysis, follow dosing recommendations for patients with creatinine clearance less than 10 mL/min, shown in Table 6. It is not necessary to administer a supplemental dose of didanosine following hemodialysis.

**Hepatic Impairment:** (see WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS)

**HOW SUPPLIED**

VIDEX<sup>®</sup> EC (didanosine) Delayed-Release Capsules are white, opaque capsules that are packaged in bottles with child-resistant closures as described in Table 7.

Table 7  
VIDEX EC Delayed-Release Capsules

125 mg capsule imprinted with BMS 125 mg 6671 in Tan	30 capsules/bottle
NDC No. 0087-6671-17	30 capsules/bottle
NDC No. 0087-6671-12	3



# BAR TALK



photo by Steven Underhill, digital manipulation by Mike Hardison

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You can purchase time on our system by calling 1-800-321-6845 and requesting a 10, 20, 30, or 60 minute Block of Time™ with discounts of up to 20%. The cost is \$1.99 per minute and you may use your Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express card. You will be able to respond, browse, and retrieve messages by using your Block of Time™ account from any touch-tone phone!

## PARTING GLANCES

**"Anja," Mr NL & Indra, The Cafe Jan 2**  
The sexy cat computer lady and Mister Gorgeous wanted by Swedish, ponytailed sailor, girlie. Unfortunately, I couldn't find my way back again... Do get in touch again! ☎ 72784

**"Jano," Sweet Good Boy, I Desire**  
Fluvio, please talk Jano into calling again or call yourself & tell me he is safe & in love with someone else. Steve, bear, Dolores SFG. I am wounded by his kisses. ☎ 72785

**Gap, Flood Building 1/7/01**  
We talked at the check out. Gap.com-athletic socks-platinum amex-Costco. I've seen you before. I would enjoy knowing you more. Please call. ☎ 72786

**New Years Eve @ Midnight Sun**  
You Michael, 37, cute, newly arrival from San Diego, living in San Mateo. Genuine smart ass! Me: the tall handsome, fun, debonaire guy you should have gone home with. Call. ☎ 72787

**Johnfrank Fri 12 10:30pm**  
Waiting for restroom. You: white shirt, good looking, nice smile, well built. Me: gray/black sweater, beard, short hair. Would like to continue where we left off. ☎ 72805

**19th St. @ Sanchez- Dan (?)**  
You gave me the best massage. I need your home #. Pls call. Mark ☎ 72806

**Folsom Bookstore 1/9 7:45 pm**  
Me: black sweatshirt, army jacket. You: white shirt, beautiful vest, smile when you kiss. Your popper spilled. I blacked out. I'm humiliated, but need you in my bed. Second chance? ☎ 72807

**Autocity Brushless Carwash**  
So. Van Ness, Wed. 17th, parted glances at the carwash. Gave you your cig. Remember your eyes, smile and more. What are the chances of getting together? ☎ 72819

**Hole In The Wall Morning Of**  
Martin Luther King Day. Both briefly separated from friends. Me: leather. You: too, earlier. We'd had same kind of night. Sore. Friend took you away. Wanna meet again? ☎ 72820

**1/7 Moma Anderson Collection**  
And Gay Mens Chorus 12/3. You 5'8" Asian. Me: 5'6", Caucasian. Lots of eye contact. Want to meet over coffee? Life's short-why not take a chance. ☎ 72821

**01/21 In Front Of Daddy's**  
You: Bill. Me: waiting for my friend to go to dinner. It was so rushed. Let's pick up where we left off. Call me! I know what I'm hungry for! ☎ 72823

**The Dark Crystal. Suggested I**  
For your students. We, sheltered from the freezing rain, huddled, humbled by freezing rain, numbing wind, shook hands. Let's heal our crystal. Plant your shard! ☎ 72848

**Fubu Latin Man @ City Entainmt**  
Fri. 1/12, saw you later @ Shell Gas Station. I'm Latin guy w/N.Y. cap & white Audi. Let's connect? ☎ 72851

**Hot Cop @ SF Gay Parade 2000**  
You: Hop SF cop, GWM, salt & pepper hair. Me: GWM, grey beard-Hawaiian shirt- took your photo in Civic Center- would like your # & date. ☎ 72849

**Friday 1/26am Div @ Fell St. Stop**  
Light. Friday morning, stopped at light on Divisadero. Both looked as we continued. Me: black Toyota. You: black/blue car? I took right on GG Ave & waved. Let's meet- have date. ☎ 72850

**1/8, "House Of Mirth"**  
At the Embarcadero Center. I would love to know more about "La Reine Margot." Haven't had a chance to read it myself. ☎ 72898

**"Steve," Please Call 'Joe' From NYC**  
Mon. Jan 8, Golden Gate Park, sorry for the Big misunderstanding. I'm not playing games either. I don't have your telephone number. Let's try again. Please call. ☎ 72895

**Hickory St. X-Mas**  
U in kitchen and bartender: brown hair, brown beard, threr jacket & harness. I asked if your tits were real, you said they were completely organic. Call to make an opening. ☎ 72822

**Millie Grazie, Jano**  
Thank you for your kisses. Steve, Dolores St. Bear SF ☎ 72854

**Joel- Who Lived On Hyde Street**  
Handsome, romantic HIV- top 210# 6'1" brown hair green eyes 42, seeks HIV- btm bear cub 37-45 for dating, intimate encounters and possible ltr. N/S, N/D pref. ☎ 72857

**Eros Sun 1/21**  
Hi Tim, I introduced myself as we were leaving. I had a great time. Dinner, movie, one more time? Me: 38 blonde/blue 5'10", 185. ☎ 72872

**At The End Up Superbowl Sunday**  
Dancing in aisle, then you on dance floor. You: good dancer, blue eyes, dark hair, stylish. Me: longer hair, Latino, retro shirt, big shoes. Eyes met, cute smile. Wanna meet you! ☎ 72873

**Nate Poetry Teacher 23 Y.O.**  
You: Chinese Philosophy, History, Berkeley, BMW, bow ties. Matt would like to know you better. Your background intrigues me. Please let me know if it's mutual at China Cafe. ☎ 72874

**Dancing WhiteHorse 1/26**  
Your in my dreams, You: muscular, goatee, arm w/ tattoo, Latin features w/out glasses man. Me: shy, dancing within your vision & smile. Let's create magic!... Friday!.. call ☎ 72853

**1/23 Union City Century 25**  
"The Pledge" 7:55 show. You sat high in back wearing a light blue jacket, khakis, and black ankle boots. Do you prefer to watch alone or would you like some company? ☎ 72852

**Brook, 2/8 "Uncle Berts Place"**  
We had great conversation about Eastern Europe. I may have a room for rent. Should have given you my number but your F-train arrived. Hope we can meet again! ☎ 72896

## SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

**"I'm A Great Catch!!!"**  
WM, late thirties, brown hair, blue/green eyes, 6'1", 185lbs, clean-shaven, gym going, academic, HIV-, nice, warm, stable, communicative, non-superficial, engaging, humorous. You: 25-45, college educated, professional, dark hair and eyes. ☎ 72788

**Best Buds**  
Masculine Italian toman ISO another masculine buddy to "hang" with. Drinks, dinner, movies, clubs, travel (vacations) etc. Looks, age, race, top or bottom not important. Masculine men only!! ☎ 72789

**Live In Relationship E. Bay**  
58yr. old Germanic with large swanz and house seeks companionship in kitchen and bedroom. Be HIV+, healthy, bottom with talent on the computer and a warm casserole. ☎ 72790

**Gentle Soul Seeks Same**  
GWM, 44, balanced, honest, communicative, playful, contemplative, settled yet adventuresome, enjoy film, reading, travel, gardening. Prefer N/S, N/D, light drinker, HIV-neg. Want sensual, romantic type for dating. LTR oriented. ☎ 72791

**Looking For Companionship**  
Gay Asian 65yrs 5-9 150lb need close contact with trim, goodlooking man under 40 for friendship, travel conversation and love. ☎ 72792

**Seeking Tall Husky Hair**  
You: Over 6' husky to stocky, hairy a plus. Me: balding salt & pepper, 5'9", avg build, 40's seeking versatile play partner. ☎ 72793

**Erotic Liaison.**  
Sexy mature man seeks bossy, aggressive man, any age. We do what ever you say. Otherwise sociable & equal. ☎ 72808

**VGL Latino Boy ISO Hot, Young**  
Generous dat type. Me: 5'7", 135, HIV+ bottom. You: stable, fun, 40-55, ltr oriented, to spoil a good "boy". Please call. ☎ 72833

**Yogi Bear Seeks Boo-Boo Bear**  
Handsome, romantic HIV- top 210# 6'1" brown hair green eyes 42, seeks HIV- btm bear cub 37-45 for dating, intimate encounters and possible ltr. N/S, N/D pref. ☎ 72855

**Handsome Animal/Plant Lover**  
Kind, gentle, sensitive, strong, masculine, easy-going, playful, self-aware. Passion for nature, kissing, cuddling, sucking, home life. Seek same who is a homeowner. I'm 48, youthful athletic, 6'2", 190lbs. Very good looking, shave head, moustache. ☎ 72809

**Middle Age Black Gentleman**  
Seeks middle age Hispanic gentleman. I'm sincere, honest, discreet and have much to share. Big plus if you are husky and have dark hair, skin and moustache. ☎ 72810

**Financially Secure Male Wanted**  
I am seeking a mate who is financially secure for a relationship or fun and good times. Call me. ☎ 72824

**Mulatto Guy Sexy, Educated**  
Intelligent, and good looking. Seeking guys for a relationship or just plain fun. Let's get together. ☎ 72825

**Love To Suck**  
Men 6' or more for a steady relationship. I'm 6'2", 165 GWM. Come after work or short time on weekends. I go deep and take it all! ☎ 72826

**GWM 42 Good Heart!**  
Me: 6'3" green/blue eyes, 200lbs, s&p hair w/out glasses, like plus music, movies & the good life! You: 30-45yo, sincere & fun HIV- only please. ☎ 72827

**Cautious, Continentious, In-**  
Shape 40 yr GWM (6'2"-180) loves mutual butt munching & j/o, nice guy seeks another equally clean, disease free and capable serial monogamy for ongoing unhindered encounters. ☎ 72828

**Concord Guy Seeking A Boyfriend**  
I'm a GBM 36yo, 5'8", 142lbs. Nice cock. Friendly, horny, and cute. Only for WGM 18 to 40. No fats. You won't be sorry! ☎ 72829

**Real Person Wanted**  
36, professional, WM, sensitive, looking for friendship and maybe more. You 25-45, WM, down to earth and know what you are looking for in another. ☎ 72830

**Top Dad ISO Hot Poz Boy 4 LTR**  
GWM 43, 6'0", 195#, s/p, ht, goatee, masc. top. UR: 38, Wht/Lat All-American boy wedge- lean 2 musc, w/d butt. Vanilla 2 leather. ☎ 72831

**Very Lonely Solano County Man**  
45yo WM affectionate, honest, sincere, loving, seeks similar to be a friend, maybe more; I like men with moustache's. I look forward to your call. ☎ 72832

**Hot French Love**  
French guy in 30's 40's desired for more than friendship by hung romantic blue eyed European in 30's. ☎ 72834

**2001 Odyssey**  
Befriend this sensuous senior who will transport you into outer space. 5'11", 150, hazel eyes, wavy hair, great kisser. Prefer slim Latinos or Asians. Let's wine, dine, romance in Hayward. ☎ 72856

**HIV+ Latin Male**  
39, 5'8", 155 brn, brn eyes looking for ltr with HIV+ male Latin or White. Me top- very open minded and enjoy a good looking man's company. Call if interested. ☎ 72857

**Top Fuckbuddy Wanted**  
GWM, HIV+ bottom; ISO HIV+ top, for erotic man to man pleasure play. Me, bl, hzl, 6'1", slim. ☎ 72858

**Hot Hairy Muscle Dad**  
5'8", 170lbs 46, dark hair, 9 uncult top seeks White, Latins, Asian, son 21-35 bottom, slim a plus HIV- N/S, N/D not into bars. For ltr. ☎ 72880

**HIV+, Blacks, Latins, Puerto Ricans**  
Wanted by HIV+, blond/blue, 5'10", 160lbs. versatile bottom, 44yrs, genuinely honest & loving, in good shape, no fat guys. You be similar. I live near Chico. I'm willing to travel, please call me. ☎ 72875

**"Teach Me!"**  
Bi- guy 40, smooth, clean, nice buns, HIV- vgl 6', 175lbs, bottom, closeted, seeks HIV-m top, your place. ☎ 72876

**Raver/Urban Hipster Types**  
Me: 35, GLM 5'10", 135 dark brown hair eyes. Nice worldly. You: light eyes. Nice personality smile. No heavy drugs. Cuddly, romantic, passionate. Sagittarian friendly. Like dancing. ☎ 72877

**Attention Big Tall Guys**  
Are you hung enough to try my pink hole? Lean Asian 30's moustache; sparse hair, wanted to get plowed deep and hard all the way. Fantasy fulfilled only for you. ☎ 72878

**Attn: Daytime Cock Suckers!!**  
Got some freetime and would love a perfectly beautiful 7" cut cock w/big low hangers to suck on. Mature gentleman can provide this. HIV- glory hole available. ☎ 72879

**I Exist- Do You?**  
SWM, cute, athletic, 42/6/175, HIV- Neg, br/br, hairy, clean & horny, looking to serve similar attractive, clean, hung, & HIV neg dude. My place in SF. No reciprocation necessary. LTR possible. ☎ 72899

**SWM- ISO HIV+ Man Over 32/ Top**  
ISO nice looking boyfriend over 30, HIV+ top open minded for more than sex. N/S ☎ 72900

**Rancher Seeks Cowboy**  
Rural living, rural lifestyle rancher 40's, 5'10", 180# masculine seeks to meet decisive, together non mainstream man, no drugs or disease for possible LTR. ☎ 72901

**Taco Seeks Hot Dog**  
Latino, 48, 5'6", 151# ISO GWM, 35-65. My interest: jogging, pro-sports, films, politics, classic rock, dylan. Into: oral, kissing, rimming. Sense of humor and hairy chest a plus. ☎ 72902

**"Your Place Or Mine?"**  
Healthy, good natured guy-weight proportioned, average looks, seeks same for fun times near Russian River or your place. Friendship or possible LTR. ☎ 72903

**Mendocino County Ukiah**  
40yr old Latin, good looking, caring, communitarian. Likes to party. Seeking gay male 35-50 for serious relationship. You must like to party. Sincere only please. ☎ 72904

**Latino Encounters**  
Looking for GWM 5'10", 165#. ☎ 72905

**Santa Rosa Area SF On Wk Ends**  
Seeking other hard bodies, I'm 47 handsome smooth 39" c, 29" w, 145# sincere, spiritual, strong & loving. Enjoy hot tub, massage & hot sex. ☎ 72906

**Poz GAM Seeks Fuckbuddy**  
Athletic bubblebutt Asian 30's seeks fit GWM/GLM to 35 tops. I'm already in LTR & discreet, good kisser, bottom v-attractive. Can meet week-nights. Let's fuck! ☎ 72908

## SEEKING ADVENTURE

**Wanted- Fuck Buddy**  
Good-looking GWM 43 (looks 35), short dark hair, moustache, smooth body, and blue eyes seeks a hot fuck buddy for occasional get togethers. Must be under 35, good looking. All nationalities welcome. ☎ 72843

BAR Talk continues on next page ►

# BAR TALK

## PERSONALS ARE FREE!

### CATEGORY

- Parting Glances ☐  
Seeking Relationship ☐  
Seeking Adventure ☐  
Lesbian ☐  
Fetishes ☐  
Couples ☐  
Others ☐

Headline, 30 characters maximum

Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum

MAIL FORM TO: BAR Talk, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

You must use this form to submit ads. Deadline for ads is **TUESDAY at 5 PM**, for the following week's issue. New ads run for three consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ad. Print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid address, telephone number and legible text. The Bay Area Reporter reserves the right to edit ads. **One ad per customer per week.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



**Hairy Blond Or Red Head Bottom**  
Is what I'm looking for. I'm 38-6  
200lb. A hairy Italian with 8 inches.  
Call if you love hot oral & anal ac-  
tion. ☎ 72794

**Filipino Top Wanted**  
GBM 40 is seeking a Filipino top for  
fun. Any age, looks not important.  
(Please call). ☎ 72795

**GWM Ass For Asian Cock To Fuck**  
Need Asian tops to fuck my asshole  
while I'm on my belly. Me: Cau-  
casian, mature, hairy, stocky, big ass.  
You: slender, smooth, HIV- Asian  
man who likes to fuck ass. ☎ 72796

**Young European Boy**  
This very cute submissive boy from  
Europe is ready to be trained by you  
or your friends in their 20's or 30's  
only. Total obedience is guaranteed.  
☎ 72797

**Oral Service**  
GWM, 45 br/bl, g'lee, 5'8", 160,  
healthy loves to give oral service to  
guys my age or older. Muscular, hairy  
A+. Oakland/SF. ☎ 72798

**Sonoma County Resident**  
45yrs old Latino gay male. I love nice  
hard dick to suck, fuck, I have nice  
hot, wet ass for you. ☎ 72799

**Handsome Top Seeks Bottoms**  
Hey guys, I am blond, 38, hung 8  
inches uncut, in-shape, 5'8", 160 and  
fun. You are in-shape, bottom and  
very friendly. Let's play now. ☎  
72800

**So Far Still Straight But....?**  
38yr old Italian Irish 5'8", 165lbs,  
31" waist 7"x5" cut huge, head  
shaved balls and ass, bikini tan line,  
masculine, good looking seeks hung  
Black cocks and ass. ☎ 72811

**I Love My Dad/5'9" 190lbs 42**  
GWM seeks very hairy daddy-types  
40-60 for romance and fun. Very  
oral, affectionate & cute. Must have  
val & outgoing personality. ☎  
72812

**Skinhead Muscular Wrangler**  
Hairy goateed skinhead wrangler bear  
ISO romper bawlin' bears and stom-  
per agro skins into NHB wrangler  
and fightin' for top bareassed in  
boots; leather; stmp; military kit; belts;  
chains. ☎ 72813

**Big Man Bottom Into Butt Play**  
Straight acting 6'2", 210lb, looking  
for tops into FF, toys, open to other  
play. ☎ 72814

**I Am Looking For Hung Guys!**  
I am seeking guys who are hung at  
least 9- inches or larger for fun and  
good times. Please give me a call. ☎  
72835

**Italian Guys! I Am Seeking**  
Just the right Italian guy for fun and  
a good time. If you are hung or good  
looking a plus. Call me. ☎ 72836

**I'm A Sucker For Older Men**  
Bi WM looking for older, senior men-  
50's, 60's, 70's. Black, White, Lat-  
ino, Asian- Straight, Bi, gay. Not get-  
ting enough at home? I like it cut, big  
& floppy. ☎ 72837

**Handsome Hung Italian**  
Super endowed 10" seeks another  
HIV negative extremely well hung  
man for oral sex. ☎ 72838

**Uncut? Over 55? Gay Or Straight**  
Will suck you off in my Noe Valley  
flat. Evenings- weekend. Professional-  
discreet. Hairy A+ Regular  
weekly sessions? HIV-. ☎ 72839

**Age 46 But Hung And Horny Man**  
Needs good head 2-3x weekly. Oak-  
land area. Please no voicemail, begin-  
ners, games, beads or goates. All  
ages, races and body types welcome,  
if serious. ☎ 72840

**"Fuck Me, Daddy!"**  
Blond, in-shape, 45yo bot/son seeks  
hung, 60+ top/dad into working my  
tight clean butt-hole. ☎ 72841

**Great Blow Job**  
Tallented cute 36yo hungry cocksuck-  
er seeks 28-48yo hung thick guy to  
suck off regularly. Prefer easy-going  
guy of any race with slim to medium  
build. Like verbal encouragement. ☎  
72842

**B & D And/Or S & M Mentor Sought**  
Curious guy seek intro from man to  
woman. Meet for coffee? This will be  
my only ad. ☎ 72844

**Whit Guy Lkg 2 Submit 2 Bk Guys**  
47, large white guy, 5'8", light  
brown hair, green eyes, good looking,  
total bottom needs to be dominated  
by Black guy. Nasty talk and come  
kink is good. ☎ 72845

**East Bay**  
Appreciative, mature Academic male  
seeks Gay, Straight, Bi, exhibitionist  
or curious, 25-50 for private encoun-  
ters at his home. ☎ 72846

**Versatile Fuckbuddy Wanted**  
45, 6'2", 195 HIV+ wants fuckbuddy.  
Vanilla to kink & SM/leather pref-  
er, fit to husky creative Black,  
White, Latin men, cut with nipple &  
jock fetish a plus. ☎ 72860

**I Love My Dad/5'9" 190# 42 GWM**  
Seeking kind, sexy, very hairy daddy-  
types 40-62 for sincere romance, fun  
& passion. Love to cuddle and kiss.  
Must have fun & outgoing personali-  
ty. ☎ 72886

**Joint Vonture**  
GF seeks GM whom needs a friend.  
Your European or Asian. Let's talk!!  
☎ 72861

**E/B Versatile White Male**  
Well proportioned, mature, HIV-,  
5'7", 150, ISO HIV- versatile males  
in E/ So Bay. Safe Sex. Your age/  
race/ looks/ marital status, not im-  
portant. Please no games or pagers.  
☎ 72862

**FF Bottom Wanted**  
If you also love to suck dick for long  
time, the world is yours guy. Also into  
fucking, rimming (clean), w/s,  
bondage and CBT. If you fit this pro-  
file, you're in for a great time. ☎  
72863

**Fist Fucking Hands Video's**  
Make me copy of any ff video you  
have, in return, I fist fuck you while  
viewing. ☎ 72864

**FF Butts Wanted**  
Make me copy of any ff tape. My  
med hands up your butt for hours  
BM+ welcome. 5'9", 185. ☎ 72865

**Mature GWM ISO Fisting Buddy**  
Older, in-shape and sleazy versatile  
fister looking for versatile fisting bud-  
dies for regular sessions. Age/race  
not important. Let's trade fists. ☎  
72881

**Filipino Top Wanted**  
GBM 40 is seeking a Filipino top for  
fun. Any age. Looks not important.  
☎ 72882

**Naked Beer Drinking**  
Need a masculine lean bodied guy to  
drink beer with as I take care of your  
oral needs or vice versa. Lean WM  
42 likes younger or same age. Hairy  
a plus. ☎ 72883

**"Seniors"**  
I'm a WM 6' 165lbs. 45yo & I enjoy  
giving sensual oral pleasure to se-  
niors; one on one or in groups. Kink  
optional. Bearded, non-buffed, rugged  
looking A+. No pain, S&M, gay  
scenes, drugs but smoking ok. ☎  
72884

**Ride My Bushy Moustache**  
& feel my tongue up your butt. Me:  
6', 165# br/blu 42. You: hot and  
ready. ☎ 72889

**Young Boys For Training**  
This very cute boy from Europe will  
under go any type of training you or  
your friends will decide. Must be in  
your 20's or 30's. ☎ 72885

**35 GAM Seeks GWM**  
You, 30-42, GWM like bedtime sto-  
ries. Me: 5'8", 160lbs, like to be  
bottom call if interested. ☎ 72887

**Working Stiff Seeks Massage**  
Buddy. Would love good, deep tissue  
rubdown but can't afford it. Want  
like-minded pal to exchange once or  
twice 2 week, full body, serious, but  
fun. ☎ 72888

**On My Knees**  
46yr old, HIV+ healthy, 5'8", 160,  
br/bl, g'lee loves to be on my knees  
giving oral service. My age or older.  
Muscular, hairy A+ Oakland/SF.  
☎ 72889

**Size Queen Skis Hung Top**  
GWM, 40ish needs a good workout.  
☎ 72912

**Good Old Fashioned Sweaty Sex**  
With hairy chested GWM, seek simi-  
lar guys for all-nighters. Let's go at  
it! ☎ 72917

**Seeking Serious Nipple WkOut Buddy**  
46yr old stocky 190# bear btm, nip-  
pig with huge erect nips. Brn/brn,  
tat's, piercings, salt & pepper goatee,  
smoker. ISO super masc. dominant  
nip-pig "bear daddy" for serious nip  
wkout sessions with growth in mind.  
Smoker A++ Please call. ☎ 72902

**GWM 45, 5'9" 180 Bn/Bn Clean**  
Shaven with smooth med bld. avg.  
masculine looks, wants to meet men  
for friendship, play, easy going very  
oral. ☎ 72908

**Love to Service Mankind**  
Handsome, tall, in-shape, 43-yo, bot-  
tom loves taking it deep. Seeking  
dominant top, 30-55, masculine,  
HIV-, into light SM with affection.  
Hairy, endowed A+. ☎ 72909

**Erotica For You**  
Latino American hot and handsome  
looking for a GWM 6 feet and up for  
some fun and steamy night. ☎  
72910

**Strapon Topman**  
Dildo in harness belt wielded by  
strong masc Oakland WM, 54, 5'8",  
175# bald beard for prolonged cus-  
tomizable domitative penetration of  
younger smaller athlete. No drugs.  
☎ 72911

**I Like To Shove My Big Dick**  
Down a guy's throat, and I like them  
to love it. I can go for hours. Can  
play? Mature, hairy pluses. ☎ 72913

**Hairy Ex Marine Daddy**  
Masculine 6ft, 210 into hot oil erotic  
free massage, oral service, rimming,  
shaving for masculine in-shape mus-  
cular guys only, 18-40. Just lay back  
and enjoy! ☎ 72915

**Palo Alto GAM 44, 5'11" Bk-Bn**  
185 likes giving oral in secluded area  
within mid Penin. to Santa Clara.  
Prefer thick members 7in to 9in who  
recip. 3pm-2am. ☎ 72914

**Latin/Mexicans**  
I really like servicing my Mexican  
friends. W/M, 50, 5'11", 180. Do it  
your way- often and regulars. Mar-  
ried or single. 30-45. HIV neg. No  
drugs. ☎ 72916

## LESBIAN

**GAM Seeks GAF For Support**  
Came from traditional family. Seek-  
ing Asian females in the same situa-  
tion to discuss option in helping each  
other. ☎ 72815

## FETISHES

**Seeking Serious Nipple WkOut Buddy**  
46yr old stocky 190# bear btm, nip-  
pig with huge erect nips. Brn/brn,  
tat's, piercings, salt & pepper goatee,  
smoker. ISO super masc. dominant  
nip-pig "bear daddy" for serious nip  
wkout sessions with growth in mind.  
Smoker A++ Please call. ☎ 72902

**Thirsty Throat And Rimmer**  
Mature GWM seeks thirsty throat  
any age, race. Offers 6-pk, also butt  
for lizard tongue rimmer. Has hard  
strong legs, family size nozzle. HIV  
neg, std clean, discreet. U also. ☎  
72803

**Got Gum?**  
I'll take it off your hands--er, balls!  
Getting you to shoot your max every  
time proves, I'm probably Bay Area's  
MAC (most accomplished cocksuck-  
er)! ☎ 72804

**Daytime Asshole-Eater!**  
Get your asshole eaten by a pro!! ☎  
72816

**Thirsty, Mature, Respectful,**  
Deep throat expert has 6-pack for  
well endowed men who will quench  
his thirst with hot golden liquid. ☎  
72817

**Oral Fetishes**  
WM 44, 6', 160lbs. dk hr. The sight  
of someone sucking on eyeglass  
stems, pens, etc. turns me on & make  
me submissive. All types welcome. ☎  
72818

**Pig Hole, Begs For Nasty Foul Mouth**  
Top fist pig. Make it yours. The ulti-  
mate hole, proud to show off- This  
hole is serious, you be too. Punch me  
crazy if your serious and want a hole  
you turn into the biggest sloppiest  
hole, the kinkier the better. I want to  
be able to take anything you want to  
give, no limits I can think of- the  
strangest the better. ☎ 72847

**Cowboy Leather Fetish**  
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48 collects cowboy chaps, spurs, cus-  
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seeks men with same fetish for friend-  
ship, fun and cowboy games. ☎  
72866

**I Get Down And Get Under**  
Under you I lick, suck and deep  
French kiss your hot asshole. Take  
your seat and enjoy. White, brown  
and yellow recycling. Your place,  
your way. Quickies, or prolonged ses-  
sions. ☎ 72867

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72868

**6 Spurts? 7/8/9? Bingo (10)?!**  
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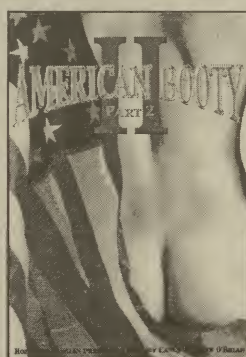
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## PERSONALS

# BAY AREA REPORTER PERSONALS

## MASSAGE



Why is he so miserable? Ed Harris as Jackson Pollock

### Pollock

◀ page 36

our protagonist. There is also some question as to whether or not he is sane. An ambiguous, wailing encounter with his brother in an early scene around the dinner table casts serious doubt on Jackson's mental stability. But the screenplay never follows that road, and instead insists that the audience stay with this lunatic, who is either cruel or indifferent to the needs of everyone around him.

### Harden knocks

Relief comes, both for the artist and for the audience, when Pollock meets ballsy New York painter Lee Krasner (Marcia Gay Harden). From here on out, it is Harden's movie. Often seen as a hard-to-cast character actress, here she succeeds in spades as a quirky leading lady. "You're a damn good woman painter," Pollock tells her, and you see her fume. It is clear to the audience from their first scenes together that she is a winner and he is a loser. The emotional core of the picture is the self-sacrifice of this truly talented artist who allows her own work to be subordinated to her devotion to the career of the man she loves. As Krasner, Harden has to perform a skilled dance as Pollock's lover, agent and mother, depending on his needs. A scene in which she cuts his fingernails is particularly revealing about the degree to which her support extends.

Later in life, they become Albee's battling George and Martha, and the deterioration of their relationship is painful to behold. Throughout, Harden's accent, her moves, her nuanced performance as the artist-hiding-behind-the-wife are all superb.

In the meantime, Jackson struggles, sweats, and sucks up to the right collectors and gallery people. Then, in 1947, he accidentally drips some paint onto a canvas on the floor of his studio... *et voila!* The rest is history! The music swells! It's a little too much like the moment in *The Agony and the Ecstasy* when Chuck Heston sees *The Creation of Man* in a

cloud formation over the marble mountains at Carrara. Was it all an accident? In any case, the oppressed painter and his wife finally stop struggling, and they head inevitably toward being destroyed by his phenomenal success.

As the resulting soap opera plays itself out, the production values are superb, and the recreation of the Pollock-Krasner world in Manhattan and on Long Island brings it vividly to life. Harris paints in a frenzy, sometimes using a tube of oil paint to "draw" onto a canvas, sometimes hurling paint from a stick, and the cameraman is with him, turning the creative process into a dance. This is why Pollock is a subject worthy of a film, but those moments are few. In the meantime, neither screenwriter nor director give the viewer much to go on about what motivates this man, and one hungers particularly after the answer to the question, Why is he so angry and miserable?

The supporting cast brings a great deal of color to the proceedings. Bud Cort, once young Harold in the classic *Harold and Maude*, is in fine form as the supportive collector Howard Putzel. Val Kilmer does a cameo with a Dutch accent as young Willem de Kooning, the pretty boy of the Abstract Expressionists. Sada Thompson appears as Pollock's Buddha-like mother, and Harris' real-life wife and frequent collaborator Amy Madigan is nearly unrecognizable as the feisty Peggy Guggenheim. Madigan gets to do a great deal of the scenery munching. "I am Peggy Guggenheim!" she states imperiously upon her first visit to see Pollock's work. "I do not walk up five flights of stairs!" A clumsy sexual encounter between Guggenheim and the brooding, inarticulate artist provides one of the few suggestions of Pollock's widely rumored closeted homosexuality. He also looks away during Krasner's first seductive disrobing. But Harris' film *definitely* does not go there. Could it be that was why Jackson Pollock was so angry? ▼

Pollock opens Friday at the Embarcadero Cinemas.

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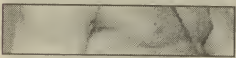


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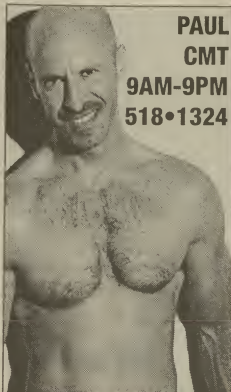
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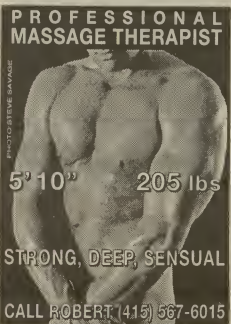
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Warm sensual powerful hands. Hot!  
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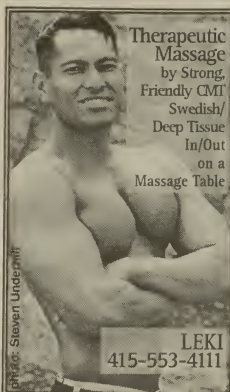
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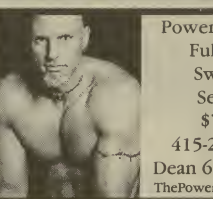
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CMT (415) 775-4771 - 24 Hours

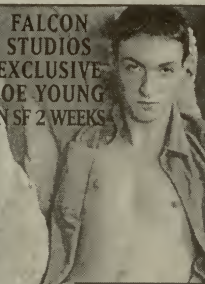
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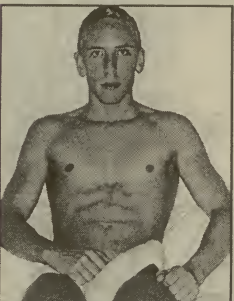


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EXCLUSIVE  
**JOE YOUNG**  
IN SF 2 WEEKS



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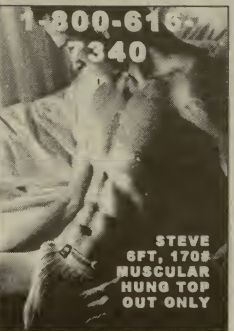
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**Horny Spanish Scorpio**



30 175 5'8  
9.5x6" uncut  
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out • Top

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**STEVE**  
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Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs  
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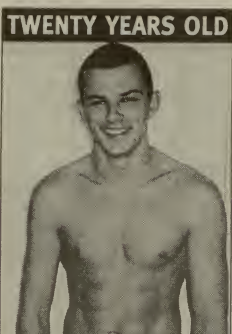
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6ft 165 Smooth  
Gym built and beautifully hung  
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Gd Lking Foot top 40yo, 6'1", 195#  
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By good lkn, blind/bl, 6' swimmer.  
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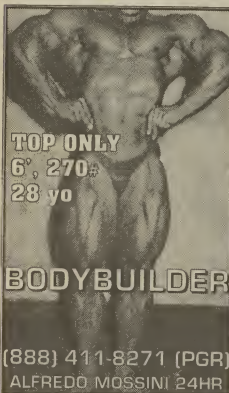
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Extremely good looking masculine  
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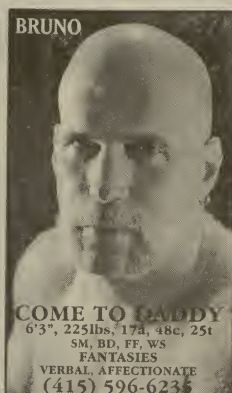
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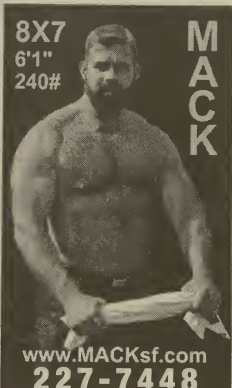
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29" waist, smooth, 8", cut, great ass!  
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6'3", 225lbs, 174, 48c, 25t  
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Sculpted smooth  
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7"cut BubbleButt Cleancut  
Masculine Affectionate IN & OUT  
**PAGE ME 415-227-7727**

**COLLEGE FRENZ**  
All types 219-0770 Joey/Simone

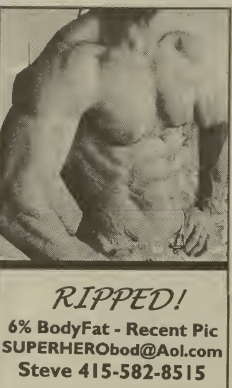
Naked runner oral top big balls  
out only \$50 SF/Peninsula/SJ  
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**Dominant Leatherman**  
Bondage, SM, WS, CBT, F/F, Fetish, Slave Training.

41yo, 6'1", 195#, Brown Hair, flat top, Blue Eyes, mustache, 7" Uncut.

**Beginners Welcome**  
Have equipment and playspace.  
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WITH A TOP WHO ENJOYS  
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SWIMMER**  
washboard abs  
cut chest  
big arms  
friendly  
respectful  
educated  
actual 8"  
5'10, 160#  
\$150/hr  
excellent top  
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24yrs. 5'11", 165 lbs. Sexy  
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33yo 5'5", 130# 8.5" thick  
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Smooth blonde hot 22 yo 5'7", 135  
**SHY NEW BOYTOY**  
Horny & hot 4 u 372-0570 Jason

**SEXY VIDEO STAR CODY**  
31YRS 5'9" 165LBS 8 CUT  
**ROCK HARD STUD CELL#**  
577-7353 CODY WHILER

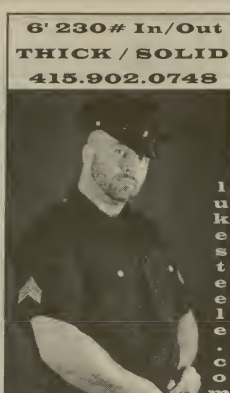
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Young jock hung xxbig loves hot  
scenes. Model looks hot muscled  
packed shorts. 415-219-0726 Chase

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Stays hard and long lasting.  
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Dancer & Gymnast  
from Las Vegas  
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5'9", 200#  
uncut,  
WS, FF,  
Mild to  
Wild

**RICH 219-5034**



**CORY** 6'2"-230 48" CHEST  
36" WAIST  
13" FEET  
29 YRS  
MASCULINE  
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**8.5 UNCUT THICK**  
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Gorgeous sexy, drug free top  
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Sexy slender Latino easygoing  
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Top watersports bear 339-7465

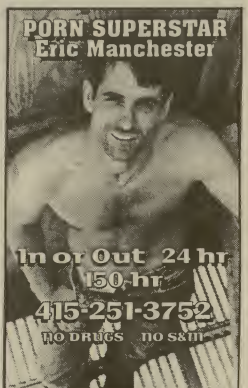


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MUSCLE  
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DOMINATION


IN/OUT \$200

**GERALD**  
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**PORN SUPERSTAR  
Eric Manchester**

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150-hr  
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NO DRUGS NO SAM



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I'M ALL ABOUT  
WEARIN' MY SEXY  
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WHILE EATIN' A  
CHICKEN TAQUITA,  
THEN WE CAN GET  
OUR FREAK ON. I  
AIN'T HAD MY  
FOREHEAD CAVED IN  
IN A LONG TIME.  
CALL ME.

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Hot, Live,  
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**10¢**  
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Call **1-900-505-2324** to get your \$5 membership then call your local number & chat **live** with local hot men for only 10¢/min. 18+

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Successful business executive seeks  
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appearing with social graces in public  
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24 Hours

\$2.00  
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If you remember me, give a call:  
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over Daddy's knee (415)864-2766

CONGRATULATIONS TO  
**CHRIS ROSS**  
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Good Luck at the Mr. San Francisco  
Leather Contest on March 9th, 2001

CONGRATULATIONS TO:  
**MARC ROSENBERG**  
Mr. Cell Block Leather 2001 chosen  
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Preview each guy before you  
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CONTEST @ Club Townsend on Fri-  
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left out!

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Bi guy, 6, 220, blond, blue, 40, at-  
tractive, very clean and healthy is  
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Loves to give head. Available even-  
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LTHR\*FETISH\*S/M\*KINK  
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**MALE CALL**  
"you get the picture"  
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18+ LOW LD TOLL

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Call 415-247-2000 Use Access code 4858

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Indicate  
Type Style  
Here ▼

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BOLD Stops Here ▼

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## DEADLINE

**NOON on MONDAY.**  
Payment must accompany ad.  
No ads taken over the  
telephone. If you have a  
question, call 415.861.5019.  
Display advertising rates  
available upon request.

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All subsequent lines 3.00  
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☐ Cash  
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☐ Money Order  
☐ Visa  
☐ MasterCard  
☐ American Express  
Minimum \$10 charge.

## CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Issues \_\_\_\_\_ Classification \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL WITH  
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SF, CA 94103  
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